

The Florist.

Bend your brown branches, leafless trees,
Beneath the wintry sky;
I know for me the harvest-time,
The vintage hour, is nigh!

Growing Camellias in Pots.

The camellia is a plant which requires abundance of water, and yet is soon killed by suffering stagnant moisture to remain round its roots. When grown in a pot there should be abundant drainage. The soil should be peat-earth and sand, which may be mixed with a little vegetable mould, if it is desired to have the plants of a very luxuriant growth, and the plants should be potted high. The pots should not have saucers—or, if they have, for the sake of cleanliness, the water should be carefully poured out of them immediately after the plants have been watered. The plants should be watered abundantly every day while their flower-buds are swelling; for, if this be neglected, the buds are apt to drop off. When the flowers begin to expand, the watering is not of so much consequence, though it should be continued in moderation, and a plentiful supply should be given when the plants are making their young shoots. After they have done growing, watering once or twice a week will be sufficient till the flower-buds begin to swell.

Round-shaped Cacti.

These plants take their name from their resemblance in form and spines to a curled-up hedgehog. There is, however, a great degree of confusion about them; and those with very long-shaped flowers are by some called *cerus*, because their flowers resemble in construction those of other plants belonging to the genus *cerus*. But whatever the name given to them, all the round-shaped, ribbed, spiny or porcupine cacti, require the same treatment—that is, to be grown in vegetable mould, mixed with pounded bricks or lime rubbish. The pots should be drained with cinders, and the plants be frequently watered; but water should never be given overhead, as when there is an indentation, it will rot the centre if suffered to remain there, which can hardly be avoided if water be poured all over the plant.

Genista.

There are above fifty distinct species of *genista*, most of which will live in the open air, but some are greenhouse shrubs. They are all very handsome from their profusion of bright yellow flowers. The greenhouse kinds should be grown in peat and loam, and are propagated by cuttings under a glass, which should be frequently taken off and wiped, or they will damp off.

Patersonia.

A fibrous-rooted genus of very beautiful plants, natives of New Holland. They should be grown in sandy loam and peat, and are increased by dividing the roots or by seed. They require a little protection during the winter, and on that account are generally grown in pots which can be readily removed from the border to the greenhouse.

Lapourousia.

Cape bulbs with pretty flowers, which may be planted in a warm border and left in the ground during winter, if protected during that season by a hand-glass from frost and heavy rain.

Management of Cuttings.

The management of cuttings after they are planted depends on the general principle that, when life is weak, all excesses of exterior agency must have a tendency to render it extinct. No cutting requires to be planted deep, though such as are large ought to be inserted deeper than smaller ones. In the case of evergreens, the leaves should be kept from touching the soil, otherwise they will become damp, and rot off; and in case of tubular-stalked plants, which are in general not very easily struck, owing to the water lodging in the tube and rotting the cutting, both ends may, in some cases—as for instance, the honeysuckle—be advantageously inserted in the soil, and besides with a greater certainty of success, two plants will be produced. Too much light, air, water, heat and cold are alike injurious. To guard against these extremes in tender roots, the most common means is that of enclosing an atmosphere over the cuttings, by a hand or bell-glass, according to their delicacy. This produces a uniform stillness and moisture of the atmosphere.

Growing Tulips.

One of the best composts for tulips, in order to insure bloom, is made up of equal parts of fresh soil, well-decomposed barnyard manure, decayed horse-manure and good loam. When variety of colors is desired, a compost may be used of one-third old lime, well pulverized and sifted finely, and two-thirds of fresh soil. It is a good rule to take every dry part, which appears of a brown or black color, away from each tulip-root before planting it. In planting seedling tulips, care should be taken to keep them clear of weeds, and the second year they may be expected to send forth flowers. At this stage, it is advisable to pull out and throw away such as are of a red or yellow color, as they will not prove to be handsome flowers, and are, therefore, perfectly useless. Such as are of purple and flesh color will prove fine flowers, and should be saved.

New Seedlings.

French amateur florists have lately been remarkably fortunate in the production of new seedlings of some classes of flowers. For years the old scarlet geraniums have been grown without showing any remarkable or distinct new colors; the French, however, have within a short time past raised sorts quite dissimilar to any previously seen. Among the recent sorts are the *rubens* and *damage*; the former a superb rosy crimson, and the latter a salmon pink of exquisite shade. There are also the *nemesis* and *consuello*; the former a delicate shade of pink, with large white centre—the *consuello* a rosy scarlet, and blossoms very large.

Bulbs.

Bulbs of most kinds flourish in rooms with less care than most other kinds of plants. Hyacinths, tube-roses and lilies should be planted in the autumn. In preparing pots for them, select such as are about four inches deep and three inches wide; put a little rotten dung into each pot, fill up with rich, light soil, and plant the bulbs so shallow that nearly half the bulb stands above the soil. As soon as the bulbs begin to start, water well, and keep them in the sun.

Pernettya.

A pretty little evergreen bush, a native of Terra del Fuego, with white, heath-like flowers. It is quite hardy, and only requires to be grown in a bed of peat soil.

Curious Matters.

A Sea of Punch.

On October 26, 1784, a bowl of punch was made at the Right Honorable Edward Russell's house, when he was captain-general and commander-in-chief of his majesty's forces in the Mediterranean. It was made in a fountain in the garden, in the middle of four walks, all covered over with lemon and orange trees; and in every walk was a table, the whole length of it covered with cold collations, etc. In the fountain were the following ingredients, viz., four hogheads of brandy, eight hogheads of water, twenty-five thousand lemons, twenty gallons of lime-juice, thirteen hundred weight of fine Lisbon sugar, five pounds of grated nutmegs, three hundred toasted biscuits, and lastly, a pipe of dry Mountain Malaga. Over the fountain was built a large canopy to keep off the rain; and there was built on purpose a little boat, wherein was a boy who belonged to the fleet, who rowed round the fountain and filled the cups of the company—and in all probability over six thousand drank from it.

Hearing his own Funeral Sermon.

An English paper—the *Gateshead Observer*—tells a curious story of an inmate of one of the workhouses on the Tyne, who on a recent occasion fell into such a state, that it was difficult to say whether he was dead or “dead drunk;” and the opinion of the doctors having been taken, he was pronounced to be in the former condition. He was accordingly carried to the dead-house, and preparations were made for his burial. Sunday intervened—there was divine service in the workhouse—and the reverend gentleman who officiated having heard of his removal, “improved” the event; but by this time the jovial pauper had recovered from his trance—had demonstrated his death to be a “fallacy of the faculty”—and was discovered to be listening with great sobriety to his own funeral sermon!

Female Heroism.

The *Charlotte (N. C.) Bulletin* records the heroic conduct of a young lady residing in Henry county, Virginia. A child of Dr. Watt, of Charlotte, was on a visit to the Read family, and while playing in the yard was struck in the foot by a rattlesnake. Fully aware of the danger which she incurred, but without a moment's hesitation the courageous young lady set to work to draw the poison from the wound by applying her mouth to the bite, and sucking out the virus, which she persevered in until she was satisfied that the poison had been eradicated. Up to this time she had experienced no ill effects from the poison, and the child, with the exception of a swelling of the foot and leg, was well in a few days.

Noteworthy Example.

When railways were in their infancy, it was supposed that they would injure the estates through which or near which they run, and Mr. Labouchere's father received the compensation of £80,000 for an imaginary detriment to his property of this sort. After his death, his son, finding there was no injury to the estate from the vicinity of the railway, but the contrary, refunded the £80,000.

New Poultry.

It is said that chickens of a new breed, called “Belip-tendean,” are being introduced into this country. Instead of feathers, they are covered with fine hair like that of lap-dogs, very white, soft and beautiful, and have curious red ornaments on their heads.

Electricity.

In front of the “*Opéra-Comique Imperial*” at Paris, there exists an open space, upon which the opera-house formerly stood, where the Duke de Berri was assassinated. The place is ornamented with a bronze fountain, which has just been coated with copper by the electrotype process. The operation was carried on in a workshop built for the purpose at the neighboring village of Anteuil. Some weeks ago the upper basin, from which the water flows through sixteen tigers' mouths, was in the bath of sulphate of copper when a violent thunderstorm burst over Paris, and the lightning fell close to the workshop in question. Immediately after the storm had subsided, M. Oudry caused the liquid copper to be poured off, in order to examine the vase, and to assure himself that the electric fluid had not deranged the deposit. He was extremely surprised to discover that the copper had been deposited on the tigers' heads in streaks or lines about the twenty-fifth of an inch in height, separated by equal intervals, and so happily arranged that they form a veritable tiger's skin, covered with hair, in as perfect a manner as if they had been produced by the hands of a skilful engraver.

Betraying Government Secrets.

A curious case, involving the crime of treason, has just come to light in Berlin. A workman in the royal manufactory of the percussion mixture used in the preparation of cartridges for the needle-gun, was induced to betray the secret to, it is said, a French agent. He attempted to forward a quantity done up as bales of paper. At the railroad office attention was attracted by the extraordinary weight of the packages, which were opened and found to contain a large quantity of detonators. An agent of the secret police was at once despatched from Berlin, and both the workman and his tempter are said to have been secured. The composition is a secret, and all the employees in the manufactory are required to take oaths of allegiance and secrecy. His betrayal of trust is thus a case of high treason.

A gifted Family.

The Broun family are giving concerts in England. Mr. Broun, who is a German, is so fortunate as to possess six children singularly gifted. Two of them, girls, play upon the violin, one, a lad, handles the double bass, another, quite a boy, performs upon the violoncello, a younger brother plays the viola, and an elder sister sits at the piano. Thus an orchestra is formed, and difficult pieces of music are rendered in a manner both strange and delightful.

New Fire Alarm.

An ingenious mechanic in St. Louis has devised a singular fire alarm apparatus for hotels. Cords with weights attached run to all the rooms in the house, and connect with registered bells in the office. A fire in any part would burn one or more of those cords, whereupon, by mechanism nicely arranged, the bell to which it was attached would be made to fall to the floor, and all the others set to ringing loudly.

The Lover's Puzzle.

To learn to read the following, so as to make sense, is something of a mystery:

If thee read see that me
 Love is down will I'll have
 But that and you have you'll
 One and up and you if

Singular Presentiment of Death.

Among the effects of the late Henry B. Lane, the young man who was recently burned to death by the explosion of a can of camphene in the St. Louis Democrat office, was found a diary, in which the following entry had recently been made. It is certainly a most remarkable instance of presentiment of death:

"To whom it may Concern.—Having been impressed with forebodings of the most painful nature within the last four or five weeks, and fearing that I am about to meet with some sad misfortune or other, I take this method to make known my wishes, should anything happen which may cause my death. It is my request that some one will inform my relations, by writing to Mr. John Buckworth, No. 187 Spring Street, New York, at the earliest possible moment, and also please to write to my mother, Mrs. Hannah D. L. Neal, London Mills, London, N. H., and thereby render a favor to one who died in a strange land.
HENRY B. LANE."

Maternal "Affection" of the Tiger.

Contrary to the habits of most animals, which take the utmost care of their young, and in their defence will expose themselves to the direst peril, the mother tiger is in the habit of making her young family her pioneers, and, when she suspects anything wrong, of sending them forward to clear the way. Knowing this curious propensity, the experienced hunter will not fire upon a cub that shows itself, for the mother will, in most cases, be waiting to see the result of her child's venture. Therefore, they permit the cub of cubs to pass with impunity, and reserve their ammunition for the benefit of the mother as she follows her offspring.

Curious Instrument.

Dr. Scott Allison has introduced a new instrument for the detection of diseases in the chest, which he calls the "chest goniometer," or angle measure, by which he is enabled to detect the slightest deviation from symmetry, and thus to discover depression at a very early stage of consumption, and to mark the progress of the disease, whether favorable or unfavorable. The instrument is of ivory, and very light and portable. Its use in the way intended is said to give very satisfactory evidence of its usefulness and value, and it is being extensively introduced.

The great Bell of Birmah.

An East India missionary writes of a celebrated heathen temple near Rangoon:—"Near this pagoda is by far the largest bell I ever saw. Its weight is, as written on the bell, 2,514,549. These figures, according to some, mean *ris*; according to others, *respects*. Taking the lowest estimate, the weight of the bell is over 90,000 pounds. I think there is nothing that will compare with it in England or America. Some fifteen or twenty men can stand inside of it. It contains, according to the inscription, one hundred and twelve pounds of gold, which would be alone worth over twenty-five thousand dollars."

Remarkable Suicide.

A desperate case of suicide is recorded in the St. Louis papers. A Frenchman, named Jean Benoit Bonnadieu, cut his throat, but being disappointed in not succeeding in killing himself, he took a gun, placed the end of the barrel in the wound he had made in his throat, and pulled the trigger. He had method enough in his madness to point the gun upward, so that the bullet penetrated his brain instantly, and so ended his misery.

Child nurtured by Wolves.

Le Loyer, an old writer on demonology, relates a story of a child nurtured by wolves, remarkably similar to those which have been recently brought from the kingdom of Oude. This account is, that in the reign of the Emperor Louis, of Bavaria (A. D., 1818-47), a child was taken in a forest of Hesse, who walked on his hands and feet, and in this manner was able to run faster than any wild animal. After a time they succeeded in taming him, and he was taught to walk upright by tying his hands to sticks. He related that, at the age of about three years he had been carried away by wolves, which had removed him to their den, without doing him any harm. The wolves shared their food with him, and lay round him in winter in order to protect him from the cold. They forced him to walk and run like themselves on his hands and feet; and he became so perfect in this mode of progression, that there was no wolf in the forest which could run faster, or leap a ditch better, than he could. This boy was presented to Prince Henry, Landgrave of Hesse, and he often said he would have preferred to remain with the wolves, so far had his life in the woods become a second nature.

Pigs taking Opium.

A London agricultural paper, "The Field," says that the opiate in the flower of the poppy fattens pigs by making them sleep more. One of their correspondents writes:—"In a sandy field of mine, a part of which had been dug up and not planted, a large quantity of poppies grew and completely covered the ground. Not knowing what to do with them, I asked a farmer how I should act, and he advised me to give them to the pigs. This I did, and was surprised to find how fond they were of them—eating them up clean, and with evident relish, and preferring them to other food as long as they lasted. The pigs improved in flesh, and one of them which was unusually noisy became quiet even when his feeding time came round. No doubt the poppies had some somniferous effect; but no injurious symptoms followed, and the bowels were not constipated, as I thought would perhaps have been the case. I had never heard of it before; and perhaps this may induce others whose land produces a large crop of poppies to try this novel way of feeding their pigs."

Odd Fatality.

A returned Californian reached home a short time ago with between \$15,000 and \$16,000 in gold coin. Feeling it unsafe to keep so much money about him, and suspicious of the honesty of banking institutions, he determined to bury it, which he did accordingly, without informing any one of the locality. A few days afterwards he went out riding, when he was thrown from his horse and instantly killed. Of course no one knows where the money is, although it has been searched for very carefully.

Singular Accident.

A lady came near losing her life by a singular accident, in Louisville, while riding in a buggy. One end of a scarf which she wore around her shoulders blew off, and was caught in the spokes of one of the wheels, and wound up in such a manner as to draw her neck down on the wheel, and was choking her very severely. Some gentlemen stopped the buggy, and relieved her from her perilous situation.

The Housewife.

Bally Lunn.

Sift into a pan one and a half pound of flour; make a hole in the middle of it, and put in two pounces of butter, warmed in a pint of sweet milk, a saltspoonful of salt, two eggs well beaten, and two tablespoonful of the best brewer's yeast. Mix the flour well with the other ingredients, and bake it in a turban form, or bread-pan, well greased. It requires to be put to rise at three o'clock, in order to bake it at seven o'clock.

Muffins.

One quart of milk, two eggs, a piece of butter the size of an egg melted in the milk, two tablespoonful of yeast, a little salt. When the milk is warm, put all the ingredients together, add two pounds of flour, set it in a warm place and let it rise. Turn into buttered pans, and bake to a light brown. About twenty minutes is long enough if the fire is good.

Bread Sauce for Partridges.

Cut up an onion, and boil it in milk until it is quite soft; then strain the milk into a cup of stale bread-crumbs, and let it stand one hour. Then put it into a saucepan, with about two ounces of butter, a little pepper, salt, mace, and the boiled onion. Boil it all up together, and serve it in a sauce-tureen.

Fremont Bread.

A little more than a quart of flour, three eggs, two tablespoonful of white sugar, three tablespoonful of butter, one teaspoonful of cream tartar, one half-teaspoonful of soda in one cup of milk. Bake about half an hour.

Potato-Balls Ragout.

Add to a pound of potatoes a quarter of a pound of grated ham, or some sweet herbs, or chopped parsley, an onion or eschalot, salt, pepper, and a little grated nutmeg, and other spice, with the yolks of a couple of eggs.

Potatoes Roasted under Meat.

Half boil large potatoes; drain the water; put them into an earthen dish, or small tin pan, under meat roasting before the fire; baste them with the dripping. Turn them to brown on all sides; send up in a separate dish.

To remove Ink.

Ink may be removed by rubbing upon it the juice of wood-sorrel, holding it over a hot flat-iron with a cloth between; then wash it out, without soap at first. Sometimes cream-tartar and boiling water will remove ink.

To remove Paint or Grease, Pitch or Tar.

Make a mixture of one pint of alcohol and one ounce of spirits of nitre. Wet the soiled place, and rub hard with the fingers until it is removed.

A liquid Glue that keeps for Years.

Dissolve two pounds of good glue in two and one-ninth pints of hot water; add gradually seven ounces of nitric-acid, and mix well.

Invisible Cement.

Dissolve Russia isinglass in hot alcohol, and it will stick firmly broken crockery or glass.

Cider Cake.

One pound of butter, one pound of sugar, four eggs well beaten together. Dissolve two teaspoonful of soda in one pint of cider, and pour into the previous mixture, and then stir in gradually two pounds of flour. Cloves and mace are the best seasoning. Any fruit can be added, either raisins, currants or citron. This makes two large loaves. It should be baked three hours with a steady heat.

Rich Loaf Cake.

Three-fourths of a pound of sugar, three-fourths of a pound of butter, six eggs, half a cup of molasses, one pound of flour, one pound of currants, one teaspoonful of cloves, one teaspoonful of cinnamon, one teaspoonful of nutmeg, one teaspoonful of soda, one pound of raisins chopped fine, half a pound of citron.

Milk Biscuit.

Ingredients—One pound of flour, quarter of a pound of butter, quarter of a pound of sugar, one and a half teaspoonful of milk, one egg, one wineglassful of yeast, a teaspoonful of spice, and six ounces of flour to mix with. Make into a fine, light dough, and bake them in tins, or in pans.

Jenny Lind Cake.

One cup of butter, two cups of sugar, one cup of milk, six eggs well beaten, yolks and whites separately—the whites should be kept until everything else is done and then added—four cups of flour, into which two teaspoonful of cream tartar should be well stirred. Flavor with lemon.

Potato Bread.

Boil and peel a dozen mealy potatoes; rub them through a sieve, mix them thoroughly with twice the quantity of flour or meal, add sufficient water to make a dough of the ordinary consistence, ferment in the usual way with hop or potato yeast, and bake in rather a hot oven.

Temperance Cake.

One cup of milk, one cup of sugar, one tablespoonful of butter, one teaspoonful of soda, and flour to make it as stiff as cup cake. This should be eaten new, as it soon dries if kept. Most persons like it best eaten with butter. It may be baked in a small loaf or in cups.

Potato Cakes.

Mash boiled potatoes until smooth, and knead with flour to the consistency of light dough; roll it about an inch thick, cut in any form desired, prick with a fork, and bake on a griddle.

Rice Bread.

To one pint of rice boiled soft and two quarts of wheat meal add a handful of Indian meal; mix with milk to mold it like wheat bread, and rise with yeast.

Carpets.

If you are buying a carpet for durability, choose small figures.

To destroy Crickets.

Scotch snuff put on the holes where crickets come out, will destroy them.

Roast Capons and Fowls.

They must be killed, in warm weather, two days before cooking; in cold weather, several days. A good criterion of the ripeness of poultry for the spit is the ease with which the feathers can be plucked; always leave a few on to pluck to ascertain this. A full grown fowl requires about an hour and a quarter for cooking; it is prepared and dressed exactly as a turkey, only not much, if any, stuffing in the belly of the fowl. The crow requires some for plumpness, but the stuffing absorbs the flavor of the fowl. The gravy is made like the turkey, of the liver and gizzard. Cranberry sauce is a necessary companion of roast poultry.

A Cure for Lockjaw.

A young lady ran a rusty nail into her foot recently. The injury produced lockjaw of such a malignant character that her physicians pronounced her recovery hopeless. An old nurse then took her in hand, and applied pounded beet-roots to her foot, removing them as often as they became dry. The result was a complete and most astonishing cure. Such a simple remedy should be borne in mind.

Potatoes fried with Fish.

Take cold fish and cold potatoes. Pick all the bones from the former, and mash the fish and the potatoes together. Form into rolls, and fry with lard until the outside is brown and crisp. For this purpose, the drier kinds of fish, such as cod, hake, etc., are preferable. Turbot, soles, eels, etc., are not so good. This is an economical and excellent relish.

Tea Cakes.

Two eggs, well-beaten; two spoonful melted butter, in a pint of milk; add one teaspoonful of soda. Put two teaspoonfuls of cream-tartar into a little flour, and mix with the former ingredients, and continue to add flour until it makes a stiff batter. Drop into cups or tins, and bake in a quick oven twenty minutes. These cakes are very nice either hot or cold.

Chicken Broth.

Wash half the breast and one wing of a tender chicken; put it in a saucepan with three half pints of water, a little salt, and one tablespoonful of rice or pearl barley. Let it simmer slowly, and skim it. When the chicken is thoroughly done, take it out of the broth. Serve the latter in a bowl with light bread or a fresh cracker.

Potato Colcanon.

Boil potatoes and greens and spinach separately. Mash the potatoes; squeeze the greens dry, chop them quite fine, and mix them with the potatoes, with a little butter, pepper and salt. Put into a mould, buttering it well first; let it stand in a hot oven for ten minutes.

Grape Jam.

Boil grapes very soft, and strain them through a sieve. Weigh the pulp thus obtained, and put a pound of crushed sugar to a pound of pulp. Boil it twenty minutes, stirring it often. The common wild grape is much the best for this use.

Cheap Loaf Cake.

Take two spoonful of butter, two cups of sugar, two cups of milk, two teaspoonfuls of soda, two cups of raisins, chopped fine, and flour enough to make a stiff batter. Add a nutmeg, or a little clove or cinnamon, for flavor.

To preserve cut Flowers from wilting.

Procure a flat dish of porcelain, into which pour water; place upon it a vase of flowers, and over the vase of flowers a bell-glass with its rim in the water. The air that surrounds the flowers being confined beneath the bell-glass, is constantly moist with water that rises into it in the form of vapor. As fast as the water becomes condensed it runs down the side of the bell-glass into the dish; and if means be taken to enclose the water on the outside of the bell-glass, so as to prevent it evaporating into the air of the sitting-room, the atmosphere around the flowers is continually damp. The plan is designated the "Hopean Apparatus." The experiment may be tried on a small scale by inverting a tumbler over a rosebud in a saucer of water.

Canary Birds.

Persons who keep canaries and other birds, instead of putting fine gravel in the cage, that the poor birds may help themselves to flint, to assist their digestion, sometimes give them a piece of cuttle fish bone (carbonate of lime), which is useless. The consequence is, the poor creatures sicken and die of dyspepsia. If any one will make the experiment and try the effect of some minute particles of silica on their favorite song-birds, the extreme greediness with which it will be consumed will speedily assure them of the necessity for its continuance.

Cranberry Sauce.

Pick and wash the cranberries. Put them into the kettle or saucepan with a little water, and stew them about half an hour; then stir them up, and add sugar enough to sweeten; stir it in, and cover it up tightly; let it simmer fifteen minutes; take off the cover, and let it simmer a little longer, and turn into an earthen jar.

A useful Remedy.

A simple but often very effectual remedy for biliousness, arising from any cause whatever, will be found in drinking half a tumbler of lemon-juice. It can be repeated, if necessary, and will put many a headache to flight.

A good Tooth-Powder.

Take pulverised orris-root, charcoal and pumice-stone, in the following proportions:—two-thirds orris-root, one-sixth each of charcoal and pumice-stone. This dentifrice should be used with care as to frequency.

To take out Mildew.

Mix together soft soap, powdered starch, half as much salt, and the juice of a lemon; lay it on both sides with a painter's brush, and let it lay on the grass day and night until the stain comes out.

Potato Cheese Cakes.

One pound of mashed potatoes, quarter of a pound of currants, quarter of a pound of sugar and butter, and four eggs, to be well mixed together; bake them in pattypans, having first lined them with puff paste.

Potatoes mashed with Onions.

Prepare some boiled onions by putting them through a sieve, and mix them with potatoes. Regulate the portions according to taste.

To make Soft Water.

A gallon of strong lye put in a barrel of hard water will make it as soft as rain water.

Editor's Table.

MATURIN M. BALLOU, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

A NEW VOLUME.

With the present number of *Ballou's Dollar Magazine* we commence the *eleventh* volume of the work, and the sixth year of its issue. It is not a cause of surprise to any one that it has attained to so large a circulation when its originality and general excellence, and its wonderful cheapness are considered. No work has ever been attempted in America at so low a rate, and it even rivals in price the famous Penny Magazine once published in London. We shall steadily continue our efforts to make it more and more valuable, and in every way worthy of all the good things said of it, and the extensive circulation it enjoys in every State of the Union. Remember that *one dollar* sent to our address will secure the work for a whole year, or *five dollars* will pay for six subscriptions for a year.

POSTAGE STAMPS IN GREAT BRITAIN.—The annual demand of penny postage stamps in Great Britain is little short of 500,000,000. Supposing the year to contain 300 working days, it would give for every working day about 1,600,000 stamps to be manufactured. No very impossible task, however, when we remember the small size of the stamp, and the number that might be printed by a single stroke of the press, or one revolution of a cylinder machine.

IDLENESS HARD WORK.—The retired butcher in the neighborhood of Whitby must have found idleness hard work, when he gave notice that he should kill a lamb every Thursday, just by way of amusement.

QUESTION AND ANSWER.—What is the difference between a crockery dealer and a cabinet maker? One sells tea-sets and the other settees.

HOME.—The sweetest type of heaven is home; nay, heaven itself is the home for whose acquisition we are to strive the most strongly.

A GRAVE JOKE.—"There's always a Ketch to a legal joke," said the culprit to the hangman.

"The Welcome Guest."

On the first of January we shall commence the publication of a choice and elegant weekly journal thus entitled, which it is our purpose to make the *gem* of the literary press. It will be issued, of the mammoth size and in that favorite form the folio, upon fine paper, and new type cast expressly for its columns. *It will be in every particular entirely distinct from Ballou's Dollar Magazine, and the two will be sent to any person together for \$2 50 a whole year.* We have long been engaged in perfecting this enterprise, and after nearly twenty years' experience in the newspaper business, we command unequalled facilities and ample means for the purpose. The *Welcome Guest* will be entirely unlike all its contemporaries, and will follow the lead of no other paper published, striking out and maintaining for itself an entirely original path. We hope every reader of our Magazine will send us his or her subscription for the year 1860, for the new journal, as we are resolved it shall become the most popular weekly in the country. Terms \$2 00 a year. Four cents per copy.

Any persons who have already renewed their subscriptions for the Magazine, can enclose us one dollar and a half (the half dollar in postage stamps, if most convenient), and state at the same time that they are on our Magazine subscription list, and *The Welcome Guest* shall be sent them a whole year at that price.

MATRIMONIAL.—We have heard of several novel resorts to "raise the wind" for California, but the last expedient is that of a young gentleman in Boston, who advertises for a *wife*, who is willing to invest a sum of money sufficient to enable him to reach the gold regions!

TALKATIVENESS.—A tremendous talker is like a greedy eater at a boarding-house table, keeping to himself an entire dish of which every one present would like to have partaken.

SO IT IS.—A dollar ten years ago was worth as much as a dollar and eighty cents is to day. So, after all, the increase of gold doesn't really make the world any richer, it seems.

POLAR EXPEDITIONS.

The return of the steamer *Fox* to England affords all the melancholy relief that can be derived from the certainty of Sir John Franklin's fate. The sad widow who for so many long years has sought for the evidences of his death, or indulged at intervals in the hope that the hero whose name she bore was yet numbered among the living, has now incontestable proof that he died eleven years since—died surrounded by noble companions, who, at longer or shorter intervals, followed him to the better world. The icy north has claimed its glorious dead. And now, is it not time to say that henceforth no more gallant adventurers shall be sent forth to perish in those gloomy regions of darkness and horror, and perpetual frost, that has already claimed so many victims? The *London Times* decides this question in the affirmative, taking precisely the ground and employing the arguments which we used in an article written for this journal two years ago.

There are forces in nature which are stronger than the might of man. There are lines drawn around the globe we inhabit of which it is written, "thus far shalt thou go, and no farther." There are regions where Nature brooks no human companionship. Of the mysteries of those far northern climes that gird the Arctic pole, we have learned quite enough. The record of the expeditions sent forth from England and this country to make polar discoveries are ample enough and sad enough to satisfy all but a morbid curiosity, and when we weigh the cost of such voyages in treasure and life, we must come to the conclusion that it is even criminal to swell them by renewed sacrifices. For be it remembered that those who go forth on such wanderings must necessarily be among the best and bravest members of society, and that the energies thus wasted, if secured at home, would inevitably prove valuable and effective. No word or aid of ours will ever be exerted in favor of another polar expedition. It is time that the losing account should be closed.

ALARMING STRENGTH.—We have just heard of a Kentuckian whose amazing strength has been attended with very fatal consequences. He was eating a slice of bread, when the knife slipped and cut him in halves, and two men behind him.

A KNOWING BACHELOR.—"A fine gold lady's breast-pin" is advertised as lost. A bachelor makes the inquiry if she is a single "gold lady," and is willing to be changed.

A HORTICULTURAL ANECDOTE.

When Sir Francis Carew had rebuilt his mansion house at Beddington in Surry, he planted the garden with choice fruit-trees. There he was twice visited by Queen Elizabeth; and Sir Hugh Platt, in his *Gardens of Eden*, tells a curious anecdote relating to one of these visits: "I conclude," says he, "with a conceit of that delicate knight, Sir Francis Carew, who, for his better accomplishment of his royal entertainment of our late Queen Elizabeth, led her majesty to a cherry tree, whose fruit he had of purpose kept back from ripening at least one month after all cherries had taken their farewell of England. This secret he performed by straining a tent, or cover of canvass, over the whole tree, and wetting it now and then with a scoop, as the heat of the weather required; and so by withholding the sunbeams from reflecting upon the berries, they grew both great, and were very long before they had gotten their perfect cherry color; and when he was assured of her majesty's coming, he removed the tent, and a few sunny days brought them to their maturity."

LARGEST OPERA HOUSE IN THE WORLD.

—They are erecting at Rio de Janeiro an opera house which surpasses the celebrated theatres of the lyric drama at Milan and Naples, and is four times the size of the Royal Italian Opera House, Covent Garden, London. The government in Brazil sustains the opera. The emperor, who takes the lead in the literary and scientific matters of the empire, is a great lover of music. The successful plan for this temple of the Muses brought Messrs. Green and Deville, of London, about \$16,000.

PATHETIC.—A Connecticut tombstone has this inscription: "Sacred to the memory of Jonathan Thompson, a pious Christian, and an affectionate husband. His disconsolate widow continues to carry on business at the same place as before the bereavement."

HEAVY DIVIDEND.—A gentleman in Alloa received a letter, which had the following item: "Edinburgh, Aug. 25, 1859.—Dear Sir,—Enclosed I send you four postage stamps, being your second and final dividend on the sequestered estate of —, late of Waterloo Place, Edinburgh."

ON THE AMOOR.—The Russian government are about establishing a cotton factory on the Amoor River.

LIGHT TAX.—In Georgia, the tax is only two-thirds of a mill on the dollar—light enough!

THE PHILOSOPHY OF LABOR.

In reading the record of such a life as Humboldt's, the unthinking reader is apt to consider it a marvel that a man who performed such a multiplicity of labors should have attained such length of years. But he unconsciously suggests the very secret of his long life. It is the variety and many-sidedness of continual labor that renders it endurable and even salutary. You may say that Humboldt made science alone his pursuit. True, but science is a comprehensive term, and includes a vast amount of contracted details, affording that variety which is not the spice, but the very bread of life. It is not labor that wears us out, but monotonous, unvaried labor, or total inaction. The man who has nothing to do, is the most pitiable of mortals; and next to him, in the scale of suffering, is the man whose life is passed in one unchanging branch of labor.

The agriculturist will tell you that a system of rotation of crops is better for the land than an alternation of culture and fallow. The same piece of ground which has ceased to yield good crops of corn, or potatoes, or wheat, will yield an abundant harvest of grass, or turnips or cabbages. So with the human frame; activity is sometimes more refreshing than repose. A brisk walk after a long ride on horseback is much better than a nap on a sofa. And so with the mind. An active mind had far better seek refreshment in a change of employment, than in intervals of idleness. The man who passes from mathematics to music, and from politics to painting, finds himself in a much better condition than he who, wearied in a favorite pursuit, attempts to recruit by doing nothing, for if he take the latter course the perplexities of his habitual employment will project their shadows into his attempted leisure.

There is a popular prejudice against a "Jack of All Trades," and these same "Jacks of All Trades" have made such a brilliant figure in history, that if we but briefly sketched them we should fill a volume, not a column of a paper. Look at Rubens, who ranks in the annals of his country not only as a painter but a diplomatist; look at Leonardo da Vinci, a man of universal ability in science and art, excelling in painting, sculpture, architecture, engineering and mechanics; in botany, anatomy, mathematics and astronomy; distinguished also as a poet and musician. "Unpublished MSS. by Leonardo," says Mr. Hallam, "contain discoveries and anticipations of discoveries within the compass of a few pages, that strike us with something like the awe of supernatural knowledge." The name of our

countryman, Morse, will go down to posterity indissolubly linked with the electric telegraph, but few will remember that he was also a professional artist, a distinguished painter. Mr. Ball, one of our fellow-citizens, is an excellent instrumental musician, vocalist, painter and sculptor. He might make either of the arts he has mastered a speciality.

Labor, properly understood, is a blessing in disguise. By varying its application we can render it agreeable. Every man should have one leading pursuit, but the occasional cultivation of other trains of ideas will infallibly give vigor to his mind, and refreshment to his spirit.

AUTHORSHIP.—Authorcraft is an imitative as well as a creative art; an original thinker is one who portrays the works of the great Author of the universe—the compiler, one who ingeniously adapts or re-arranges the thoughts and illustrations of others; both in their degree may be said to exhibit creative power. Pseudo-authors are counterfeits—and belong not to the true and honorable craft, and should be dealt with according to the laws of felony.

DURATION OF LIFE.—In spite of the constant croaking about physical degeneracy, it appears from the reports of the life insurance companies of Great Britain, that the average duration of human life is constantly on the increase. And with our modern appliances, how much more we live in a day than our grandsires did!

WORTH REMEMBERING.—Any one residing within fifty miles of Boston, can hand his magazines, sheet music, or newspapers, to the express, tied up with the directions, and addressed to our office, 22 Winter Street, and they will be bound up strong and handsome, at a trifling charge, and returned in one week.

MONSTROUS BIVALVES.—Some of the oysters from the newly-discovered bed on the coast of Connecticut, are said to be as large as garden spades. "A dozen on the shell" would make a supper for a small man with a moderate appetite.

ELEGANT SENTIMENT.—The annexed is a choice extract from an album kept at the Niagara Hotel: "Next to the bliss of seeing Sarah, is that of seeing Niagara."

AN IMPERIAL FARMER.—Louis Napoleon is an extensive farmer, and owns 50,000 acres of land, divided into twenty-six farms.

A GEM OF THE PUREST WATER.

One of the large capitalists of Paris, Mr. W—, is the envious possessor of one of the handsomest wives in that capital of grace and elegance. Every one is well pleased to be compared to her in any way. Proud of calling her wife, Monsieur W— spared no expense to richly adorn his idol. His pride was to see her eclipse all others in dress and beauty. Those who know the various means of expending large sums on dress, especially in Paris, may form some idea of what the cost was to Monsieur W—'s purse to have a wife a leader of fashion. Though large the allowance he made her, frequently she was obliged again and again to have recourse to his generosity to pay her debts; but then point lace, honiton, sable, all were so dreadfully expensive. Could he reasonably refuse, when it gave him the honor of being the husband of such a beautiful creature, the envy of all?

Very lately, at a grand *soirée* in the Faubourg du Roule, Monsieur W— and his wife were among the guests, and the entrance of the latter, as usual, was a complete triumph. But whilst every one was in ecstasies about the beauty of her dress, ornamented with rich lace, one of the fencers, thanks to her crinoline, caught in the gilding of a console ornament, and a portion remained suspended as the lady swept past. Two or three of the envious and curious seized upon the precious morsel to admire the fineness of the texture on closer inspection; but imagine their amazement on discovering that the lace was only imitation. It was truly delightful to find such a hole in the garment of a beauty *à la mode*.

Not a little astonished, next morning, was Monsieur W—, on the receipt of an anonymous letter enclosing the piece of lace, and saying, "Do you know, monsieur, that it is a breach of confidence to pass off imitation lace for real? Who now will assure us that madame's diamonds are not false likewise?"

"Imitation! imitation!" exclaimed the indignant man of money; "it's only envy which says so." And under the influence of the perfidious billet, he rushed off to his wife's apartment, and laid the missive on her lap, loudly exclaiming against the calumny.

"No, my dear," she calmly said, "there is no calumny, only a little evil-speaking, for all these suppositions are perfectly just."

"What," he exclaimed in amazement, "even the diamonds?"

"Yes, my love."

"Why, 'tis infamous!" he cried. "People will think I am ruined."

"What will that signify, when you are well aware of the contrary?"

"But what has become of all the money I have given you?"

"That is my secret, monsieur," she replied, "which I will tell you if you demand it of me."

"I do, madam," was the angry retort; "I insist upon knowing how you have dissipated my money."

"Here, then, is the register of my expenses," she answered, offering him an open book; "I was just making it up when you entered."

We leave our readers to guess the amazement of the husband, when, instead of extravagance and foolish squandering, he read an account of sums spent in wooden and other shoes, flannels, bread, and clothing of every description, for the assistance of the poor. In this consisted all the seeming extravagance.

We must do Monsieur W— the justice to say that from that moment the false diamonds and imitation lace of his wife seemed to adorn her far more than gems of the purest water would have done, or lace of the most costly texture and make.

FIXEDNESS OF PURPOSE.—No human being who habitually hals between two opinions, who cannot decide promptly, and, having decided, act as if there were no such word as fail, can ever be great. Caesar would never have crossed the Rubicon, nor Washington the Delaware, had they not fixed their stern gaze on objects far beyond the perils at their feet.

A SENSIBLE MAN.—Bantru presented a poet to M. de Hemery, saying, "Sir, I present to you an individual who will give you immortality; but you must meanwhile, give him something to live upon!"

PLEASURE.—All fits of pleasure are balanced by an equal degree of pain or languor, 'tis like spending this year part of the next year's revenue.

POWDER AND ROUGH.—It is noticeable that ladies who use much powder are constantly blowing up their domestics, and ladies who rouge are seldom well-read.

GREAT TALKERS.—Those men talk most who are in the greatest mental darkness. Frogs cease their croaking when light is brought to the water.

COURAGE.—There are some men who will walk up to the cannon's mouth, and some women who walk up to a lover's without shrinking.

THE SMOKER'S CANCER.

Do our young friends, who use tobacco so freely, know that they run a fearful risk of incurring this terrible disease? The smoking mania, which now prevails to so remarkable an extent, is developing numerous cases of cancer, which puzzles the best medical skill of our hospitals. Several fearful cases, which have proved fatal, have occurred in New York, and some are now under treatment in Boston. In Paris, the press teems with the subject, and descriptions of the most revolting details. Cancer in the mouth M. Bouisson declares to have grown so frequent from the use of tobacco, that it now forms one of the most dreadful diseases in the hospitals; and at Montpellier, where M. Bouisson resides, the operation of its extraction forms the principal practice of the surgeons there. In three years this gentleman himself has performed *sixty eight* operations for cancer of the lips, caused by tobacco! Youth, middle age, and especially the poor, all are the victims, and several cases of women are also mentioned. M. Bouisson is especially eloquent upon the horrors of the disease, and advises the physicians everywhere to make a regular crusade against this poisonous agent, more destructive than many of the more desecrated vices of the day. It is a bad and expensive habit, and we pray our young friends, especially, to avoid it. The money expended for cigars by many of our young men, if placed at interest, would make for them small fortunes in their old age; but above all, health, and even life itself, would be preserved by abstinence from this indulgence.

AMERICAN LAZZARONI.—There is in the county infirmary at Columbus, Ohio, a woman of 89 years, called the "last of the Mohicans," because she is the last of a family of twenty-four, equally celebrated for their longevity and laziness, nearly all of whom have lived and died in various poor-houses in Ohio.

COST OF AN ERROR.—A clergyman in Erie county, Pa., recently married a young man who was under age, of which the minister was ignorant. The father of the young man compelled his reverence to pay \$35, on pain of prosecution.

WHAT NEXT?—They lately gave a ball, in a town in New Hampshire, the proceeds of which was announced to be appropriated to the purchase of a hearse for town use!

SAN FRANCISCO.—The valuation of real estate in San Francisco, for the present year, exceeds seventeen millions of dollars!

THE IRON CROWN.

Our readers are aware that the famous iron crown of Lombardy was removed by the Austrians from Monza, and that its restoration is now claimed by the French government. A few years after the coronation of Conrad, the kings of Italy were crowned at Monza, the arch-priest of the cathedral of that city officiating. The crown is of solid gold, set with jewels, and surrounded by a band of iron; and it is this band, said to be forged from nails of the true cross, which gives its title to the circlet of royalty. The iron crown is therefore not only a treasure, but an historical monument, an emblem of the true royalty of Italy. Emperors who claimed the additional sovereignty of Italy came to Milan expressly to be crowned, and it was the token that their election had been approved by the Milanese, when they received the crown at Monza. The crown was always kept in the treasure-house of the cathedral of Monza, and Ezzelino himself did not venture to touch it. It was reserved for Austria to constrain the guardians of this crown by force to give it up, that it might be removed to Vienna. It remains to be seen whether Austria will succeed in retaining a sacred property of Lombardy, and the symbol of Italian royalty.

A BAD BILL.—It is said that a hard customer in Wisconsin, named W. S. Bill, is the husband of twelve living wives! If they should all seize hold of him at once, and tear him into a dozen pieces, he would be a mighty difficult Bill to collect.

VERY COMFORTABLE.—Another piece of old household furniture has been bought in New York for a trifle, and when the new owner got it home, he found it to contain a small fortune in bank bills.

SPECIE.—If more silver mines be not discovered, the relative value between gold and silver will ere long be entirely changed. Fanny, isn't it?

DISCOVERY.—Dr. Livingston, the African explorer, has lately discovered an immense lake in the interior of that uncivilised country.

BUILDING IN WASHINGTON.—Five hundred new dwellings have been erected in Washington during the past year.

A PERPETUAL STRIKE.—A bass drummer is continually striking for wages.

GYMNASTICS.

Our people seem at last to be fully aroused to the importance of regular and systematic muscular exercise, so long a part of the educational system of the old world. We allude to the subject now—in the first place, because we are entering upon the season when athletic exercises are most necessary and most agreeable; and, secondly, because there will soon be two gymnasia in full blast in this city. Thirty years ago there was a spasmodic enthusiasm for gymnastics, started by some educated Germans, the lamented Dr. Follen taking the lead, but it turned out to be only a "Boston notion." While it lasted, the fever was universal. All professions and classes were represented in it. Doctors of divinity climbed masts, and doctors of medicine swung dumb-bells. We ourselves, then a school-boy of tender years, had the honor of pulling at the weights by the side of Dr. Beecher. Being an innovation, the system, of course, was severely ridiculed. D. C. Johnston published a caricature of it, which was full of amusing hits. All sorts of accidents were represented as occurring, and a corps of surgeons were hard at work amputating limbs and performing various other operations more improving to science than agreeable to sufferers. Gymnastics were never before, and have never since been, attempted on so grand a scale in Boston; but the enthusiasm died out, though the ice was broken and a way made for the revival of the spirit of the thing at some future time.

The prejudice against gymnastic exercises has long since passed away. Once they were thought fitting only for prize-fighters and circus-riders. Now it is not thought derogatory to the student or professional man to have a bloom on his cheek, and a well-developed muscular system. We are even willing to allow a little strength and health to the fairer and better portion of humanity. We are not shocked to see a young lady skating; we think she is no less an angel because she happens to swim on shore, when upset from a sailing-boat, instead of owing her life to a swindler and being compelled to marry him by the laws of gratitude; and we do not drop her acquaintance because she is able to walk ten miles before dinner, as the English girls do. Once upon a time the literary man who had a fresh color, and used no spectacles, was considered an unmitigated humbug; now we graciously permit him to enjoy a healthy mind in a sound body, and do not necessarily associate diplomas and dyspepsia.

Therefore, we boldly bid "Young America" "go in and win." We tell that young gentle-

man, on whom the hopes of the future rest, that we shall think none the worse of him, if he learns to swing a pair of hundred-pound dumb-bells, like Dr. Windship; that we have no objection to his being a proficient in the broad and small sword and single stick exercises; and that we shall not cross him out of our books even if he learns how to thrash a bully scientifically upon occasion. Provided Young America lives discreetly, and virtuously attends to his books and cultivates the amenities of private life, he has our full permission to develop his muscles by every manly exercise known to our heroic Saxon race.

LAFFDAY—A LADY.

The word lady is an abbreviation of the Saxon *Laffday*, which signifies *Breadgiver*. The mistress of a manor, at a time when affluent families resided constantly at their country mansions, was accustomed, once a week or oftener, to distribute among the poor a certain quantity of bread. She bestowed the boon with her own hands, and made the hearts of the needy glad by the soft words and gentle amenities which accompanied her benevolence. The widow and the orphan "rose up and called her blessed"—the destitute and the afflicted recounted her praises—all classes of the poor embalmed her in their affections as the *Laffday*—the giver of bread and the dispenser of comfort—a sort of ministering angel in a world of sorrow.

INCOMPREHENSIBLE.—Corny and Patrick the mason were looking at a well-made wall on Washington Street, near the Roxbury line, when the latter, admiring the workmanship, ejaculated, "Faith, an' that wall wasn't laid in this country." "How could that be?" was the inquiry. "I mean," he rejoined, "that the man who built and laid that same wall was never in this country, for such work is only done in the old country."

WHY IS IT?—How is it that, if a number of gentlemen are sitting together, talking sensibly upon some sensible subject, and a lady enters, they mostly commence talking foolishly, and keep it up until she makes her exit?

WORDS OF TRUTH.—Women grown bad are worse than men; because the corruption of the best turns to the worst.

INDIAN BATTLE.—A battle has taken place between a body of Californians and the Pitt Indians. Sixty of the latter were killed.

Foreign Miscellany.

Hoops and widely extended skirts are going out of fashion in Paris.

In the port of Liverpool alone, more than 1000 officers of customs are employed.

Mr. James Sheridan Knowles, the dramatic author, is preaching in Ireland with great success.

The telegraph cable between Malta and Sicily has been successfully laid, and business commenced upon it.

A new serial publication is soon to be commenced in London, under the name of *Everybody's Journal*.

Professor Mason computes that about 3000 novels have been produced in Great Britain since the publication of *Waverley*.

The members of the criminal classes at large in Great Britain have been estimated to amount to 135,000, living by the plunder and the vices of the community.

The Prince of Wales is being brought up in the way he should go. He is made to attend all sorts of lectures. His education will not be complete until he visits the United States.

Dr. Kotschy, a distinguished Orientalist, is engaged in making explorations in parts of Asia Minor not hitherto reached, or which has been overlooked by travellers.

As a proof that the Persian government is inclined to introduce the improvements of European civilization, it may be remarked that workmen have begun to pave the streets of Teheran.

The Bishop of Oxford obtained a charter for what is now known as the Amicable Life Assurance Society, founded in 1706, and justly claiming to be the oldest existing institution of the kind.

A young New Yorker "broke the bank" three times at Baden-Baden this season—once for 26,000 francs, a second time for 45,000, and a third time for—not stated what. The bank "breaks" at whatever sum it pleases.

The Austrian expedition, which has been absent a long time in circumnavigating the globe, has returned in safety to Trieste, with a large scientific collection. The government, it is said, will shortly publish the results of this expedition.

The Russian government has just commenced a railroad to connect Kiev to Odessa. It will take fifteen years to build it, and will involve more difficulties and a heavier outlay than would a road from St. Louis to San Francisco.

The photographic process has been lately employed to take copies of the inaccessible inscriptions on the rocks near Mount Sinai, which extend for miles. As these photographs admit of indefinite expansion under the microscope, these inscriptions will now be read.

A worthy offering to the memory of Humboldt is to be made by the German residents at Constantinople. They are to erect a monument, and to establish in connection with it a museum, library and reading room for the benefit of his countrymen who do now, and may hereafter live there.

The British convict-bankers, Sir John Dean Paul and Strahan, will shortly be released.

Lady Franklin has spent all her fortune in Arctic researches. She is in the south of France, in ill health.

An interesting discovery has recently been made in Florence, of several drawings and manuscripts by Michael Angelo.

The friends of the late Professor Nichol propose to erect a memorial window to his memory in the crypt of Glasgow Cathedral.

The following notice may be seen on a blacksmith's shop in Essex: "No Horses Shod on Sunday except Sickness and Death."

Omnibuses, the first seen in Syria, have begun to run at Beyrout. Crowds of natives stood gazing at them for hours with wonder and admiration.

The Prince of Wales, accompanied by the colonial secretary, and other distinguished persons, will visit Canada in the end of May or the beginning of June next.

Steps are being taken to promote the erection of a suitable monument to the memory of the late Sir John Franklin, in Spilsby, that being his native town.

In 1858, London alone received imports to the value of £77,595,090 out of £187,844,441, the aggregate amount of the imports of Great Britain and Ireland.

Oliver Goldsmith's "Vicar of Wakefield" has been translated into Armenian by T. C. Averoom, Esq., a distinguished Armenian scholar and an established merchant in Calcutta.

In Liverpool, England, there is a missionary to the hack drivers, and his work during the past seven years has been very satisfactory. The "cabbies" recently presented him with a watch.

The prices of the necessaries of life are now extremely high at Venice, and consequently the lower classes are gloomy and discontented. The middle classes and nobles are more disaffected than ever.

During the last eighteen years, twenty-eight additional bishoprics have been founded in the colonies and dependencies of the British Crown—a number of new Sees exactly equal to the total number of English and Welsh dioceses.

Colonel Wildman, who purchased Byron's Nottingham property and expended \$600,000 on Newstead Abbey, besides the purchase money, recently died. He is as immortal as Childe Harold himself.

The copper coinage of England is to be replaced by coinage in bronze of a more convenient size. The weight of the copper at present in circulation there is 3500 tons, and the profit on calling in and recoining that large quantity would amount to £92,000.

The North China Herald says: "Opium is becoming the winter crop of several of the Chinese provinces, where the country produce is fast superseding the Turkey and the inferior classes of the Malaya drug. It is largely used for intermixture with the dearer Patub and Malaya. The juice has an acrid taste. In cultivation the Chinese look more to quantity than quality."

Record of the Times.

One of the courts of Ohio has decided that a railroad has no right to mortgage its road franchise.

The Vermont House of Representatives has appropriated \$200 for a statue of Ethan Allen.

A Dashaway Association, similar to those in California, has been formed in New York, with Orville Gardner as president.

The Cherokee Indians are getting civilized. They have a debt—small, to be sure—but so large that they cannot pay the interest of it.

The letters I. O. S. M. (Independent Order Sons of Malta) have been interpreted to mean, "I Owe Some Money."

Six hundred and fifty-seven mules were sold at public sale in Paris, Kentucky, lately, for the aggregate of \$63,495 20.

What is in a name? One of the candidates for county officers in La Salle county, Illinois, is Wait, and another Waitmore.

With four weights, viz., 1 lb., 3 lbs., 9 lbs., and 27 lbs., any number of pounds, from 1 to 40 may be weighed.

The first book published on the subject of genealogy was Kelton's Chronycle, printed in 1547, with a genealogy of Edward VI.

New York can whip the world in dry goods "palaces." One going up on Broadway will have one enormous window of plate glass seventy feet in width.

The Masons of San Francisco have purchased a lot on the corner of Montgomery and Post Streets for \$92,000, and will erect a building worth \$100,000 on it.

In digging a well in Bureau county, Illinois, recently, a vein of gas was struck which burned with a flame fifteen feet above the surface of the ground.

An exchange paper says: "The best safety-valve to a boiler is a sober engineer. Congress may legislate till doomsday, but as long as the officers carry too much steam, the boats will follow their example."

The late George Brown, of Baltimore, left in the hands of his widow \$400,000 for objects of benevolence, of which sum Mrs. Brown has appropriated \$30,000 to the Princeton Theological Seminary.

A San Francisco paper, in noticing the shooting of a boy at the Collegiate School, Oakland, says: "It is stated that the use of fire-arms is not permitted in this school, except at the special request of the parents or guardians of the boys. Young Carter had this liberty."

Dr. Johnson, the great "Leviathan of literature," was, as is well known, an immense tea-drinker; but in Philadelphia there is a gentleman who beats the burly doctor, as he has been known to drink twenty-one good sized cups of tea at one sitting!

In the course of a lecture in London, Mr. Snow, formerly second in command of the discovery ship, Prince Albert, stated that there had been no less than ninety expeditions fitted out to search for Sir John Franklin, at a cost of £830,000.

The Natural Bridge in Virginia has been sold to John Lustré for the sum of \$12,000.

Beavers still exist in the backwoods of Maine.

A married lady in Loudon county, Va., is said to weigh five hundred and fifty-three pounds.

More than two millions and a half of dead letters are collected in Washington every year.

The celebrated picture, "The Duel after the Masquerade," has been sold to a gentleman who resides in Chicago for \$2000.

Mr. Potter, a Hartford school teacher, has been fined \$10 and costs for punishing a pupil in a violent manner. Mr. Potter appealed.

Innocence and beauty, twin sisters by birth, and inseparable through life. If innocence dies, beauty fades away also.

The cheapest pleasures within the reach of all are the most enjoyable; but what is more costly in the end than sin?

Scientific Parisians have discovered how to bottle daylight and uncork it for photographic operations in obscure places.

The vitality of eggs is destroyed by being transported on a railroad, and it is no sort of use to put such under hens, expecting them to produce chickens.

According to the old mythology, Neptune, the sea god, created the horse, and was the patron of horse races. This probably accounts for the fact that people who patronize the race-course so frequently get "half seas over."

A discovery of great importance has just been made by the State geologist in Texas. It is no less than the discovery of vast bodies of iron ore, as well as tertiary coal or lignite, beds of limestone, pipe clay, fire rock and hydraulic limestone in the region of country immediately south of Harrison county.

There is said to exist a confederation of outlaws, whose headquarters are in New York, who came originally from Poland and Germany, and extended their travels to all portions of the United States. By daytime they operate as shoplifters and pickpockets, and by night as burglars.

A reformed opium eater writes to the Rochester Democrat, that he commenced eating at the age of twenty-four, and continued it till four years since. He will be sixty-nine on his next birthday. During part of the time he took eighty grains a day. He thinks there are thirty opium eaters in the village where he resides.

A German paper in New York made a curious arrangement of its advertisements the other day. At the head of a column were the cards of a number of doctors, followed by the announcement of several drug stores, the whole brought up by a lot of undertakers' cards, with a picture of a coffin attached to each.

Some highly interesting discoveries have been made at Port Royal, Jamaica, by a company of divers, in the harbor of that ancient town, of remains of the submerged city, which was overthrown by the great earthquake of 1682. Could any considerable portion of the enormous treasure buried there be discovered, it would be a windfall to the island.

Merry-Making.

Why is a dandy like a venison steak? Because he's a bit of a buck.

The editor of a New York journal calls another editor "a dilapidated eld Zouave."

Punch says the only way to keep food on a weak stomach is to bolt it down.

A frequenter of public dinners complains of the overwhelming quantity of dry toast.

"Caught in her own net," as the man said when he saw one of the fair sex hitched in her crinoline.

"Got any ice at your end of the table, Bill?"

"No; but I've got the next thing to it."

"What's that?" "A severe cold."

In modern days people are accustomed to earn their living, but in former times it was usual for them to urn their dead.

"I don't think, husband, you are very smart."

"No, indeed, wife, but everybody knows I am awfully shrewed."

A boy was recently arrested for theft. His father pleaded guilty for him, but said, in extenuation, "James is a good boy, but he will steal."

Why is the common chord in music like a portion of the Mediterranean? Because it's the E G and C (Egean Sea).

A distinguished statesman of Central America, being asked how his country was getting on, replied, "O, very well, very well; a mild anarchy."

Mrs. Partington wants to know, if it were not intended that women should drive their husbands, why are they put through the bridles ceremony?

A sentimental chap intends to petition Congress for one act to improve the "channel of affection," so that henceforth the course of true love may run smooth.

A few years ago the ladies wore a kind of hood called "kiss-me-if-you-dare." The present style of bonnet might be called, with equal propriety, "kiss-me-if-you-want-to."

A person having occasion to notify a doctor to visit his wife, said to him as he was stepping into his chaise, "Now, doctor, you'll drive on to kill, wont you?" "Yes, certainly," replied the doctor.

The very last curiosity spoken of in the papers, is a wheel that came off a dog's tail when it was a waggin'. The man who discovered it has retired from public life to live on what he owes.

There is one advantage in being a blockhead—you are never attacked with low spirits or apoplexy. The moment a man can worry, he ceases to be a fool.

"I say, John, where did you get that loafer's hat?" "Please yer honor," said John, "it's an old one of yours that missis gave me yesterday, when you were to town."

President of a Western bank rushes up to his friend: "Charley, can't you give me change for a dollar? I see the bank superintendent is in town, and I want some specie in the vault to make a show."

If "brevity is the acle of wit," what is the upper leather?

A time for all things. The time to leave is when a young lady asks you how the walking is.

The dress of a frivolous coquette, however abundant, is next to nothing.

A fine woman, says the New York Post, like a locomotive, draws a train after her, scatters the sparks and transports the mails.

Why are poets like children's toys? They are given to a muse (amuse), and indulge in fancy (infancy).

Swinging is said by the doctors to be a good exercise for the health; but we have known many a poor wretch come to his death by it.

Supposing you have got a fish, when is it like a flower? When you have got a mignonette (him in your net).

A gentleman having a musical sister, being asked what branch she excelled in, declared that the piano was her forte.

What is the difference between the bark of a tree and the bark of a dog? One is formed on the bough, and the other of the bow wow.

When may it be conjectured that an army has become sick of a war? When they are obliged to throw up fortifications.

A New York milkman somewhat resembles the whale that swallowed Jonah, for he takes a great prophet (profit) out of the water.

Roast beef, serenity of mind, a pretty wife, and cold-water baths, will make almost any man "healthy, wealthy and wise."

A farmer in Scotland, sowing a field of turnips, appropriated a ridge for the accommodation of the public, with this label, "You are requested to steal out of this spot."

Crinolines appear to have been so generally adopted by ladies with a view of acquiring the title, hitherto engrossed by dandies of the stronger sex, of extensive swells.

"Here's Webster on a bridge," said Mrs. Partington, as she handed to like a new unabridged dictionary. "Study it contentively, and you will gain a great deal of inflammation."

It's very pleasant to meet a suspicious-looking individual in a lonely road on a dark night, who carries a very thick stick, and wishes to know what time it is.

It is a common saying of moralists that the lower order of animals have not the vices of man, yet it is certain that some of the insects are back-biters, and all of the quadrupeds tale-bearers.

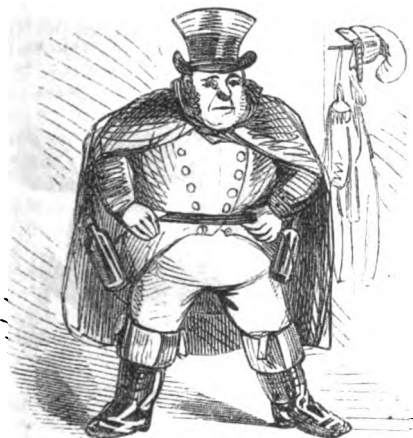
An eminent rider has undertaken, for a heavy wager, to ride the well-known horse Chestnut against the celebrated horse Radish. He will use the saddle of mutton and the spurs of necessity for the occasion.

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JOHN GILPIN'S RIDE.



John Gilpin was a citizen
Of credit and renown;
A train-band captain eke was he
Of famous London town.



John Gilpin at his horse's side
Seized fast the flowing mane;
And up he got in haste to ride.
But soon got down again.



Now see him mounted once again
Upon his nimble steed,
Full slowly pacing on the stones
With caution and good heed.



But finding soon a smoother road
Beneath his well-shod feet,
The snorting beast began to trot,
Which galled him in his seat.



"So, fair and softly!" John he cried:
But John he cried in vain;
That trot became a gallop soon,
In spite of curb and rein



So stooping down—as needs he must
Who cannot sit upright—
He grasped the reins with both his hands,
And eke with all his might.

BALLOU'S DOLLAR MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

THE CHEAPEST MAGAZINE IN THE WORLD.



Away went Gilpin neck or nought.
Away went hat and wig;
He little thought when he set out
Of running such a rig!



And still as fast as he drew near.
Twas wonderful to view
How in a trice the turnpike men
Their gates wide open threw.



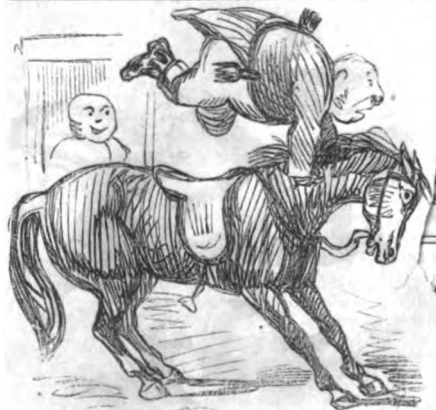
And now, as he went bowing down
His reeking head full low,
The bottles twain behind his back
Were shattered at a blow.



He came unto the wash
Of Edmonton so gay,
And there he threw the wash about
On each side of the way.



"Stop, stop, John Gilpin!—here's the house!"
They all at once did cry;
"The dinner waits, and we are tired!"
Quoth Gilpin, "So am I!"



Away went Gilpin out of breath
And sore against his will,
Till at his friends, the Callenders,
His horse at last stood still.

The Florist.

There's a tree that blossoms in winter time,
In spite of tempests, and wind, and snow;
And fruit as bright as in tropic clime
On its fresh green branches wave and glow;
No matter how gloomy the winter be,
There's sure to be fruit on the Christmas-tree.

MARY M. CHASE.

General Care of Flowers.

Numerous plants, which it would require too much space to enumerate, will need attention at this time. Pelargoniums require some special attention; re-pot all the plants intended for early bloom, and carefully train out the branches, so as to make bushy plants; nip off the ends of the growing shoots; keep in a light and airy part of the house, near the glass, and fumigate often, to keep down the green fly. *Asclepias* will show signs of a fresh growth, and as soon as they do, water more liberally. *Cinéraires* will need to be shifted, if growing fast; keep them near the glass, and practice fumigation regularly, as the green fly is destructive to the beauty of this plant. *Achimenes* and *gloriosas* may now be re-potted, placing them in the warmest part of the house, and water sparingly for a week or two.

Cistus.

The rock rose. Beautiful hardy and half hardy shrubs, which grow freely in a mixture of loam and peat, and are readily increased by cuttings planted under a hand-glass, layers or seeds, which are ripened in abundance. Most of the species are of low growth, and are generally used for rock-work. The dwarf kinds being generally tender, will require a slight protection during severe winters, when they are planted out for rock-work. There are several other kinds of *cistus*, but none so beautiful as this rock rose.

Isoranda.

A climbing plant, a native of Brasil, with beautiful lilac flowers, shaped like those of the catalpa. The wood is said to be the rosewood of commerce. In England it requires a stove. It should be grown in a mixture of loam and peat, and it should be kept nearly dry during the winter. It is propagated by cuttings, which should not be deprived of their leaves, and which must be struck in pure sand under a glass. Some persons suppose the rosewood to be a kind of mimosa.

Divea.

This is the smallest of trees—and though some kinds of willow are of still lower growth, they are too herbaceous in the texture of their stems to be legitimately entitled to the rank of trees. The *divea*, on the contrary, is as completely a tree as an oak, though it seldom grows above three feet high. It grows in marshy soil, and if transplanted, should be grown in peat kept constantly wet. It is a pretty little tree, and very curious on account of its perfect yet Lilliputian form.

Arenaria.

Pretty little plants, with flowers shaped like those of the pink. Most of the species are natives of Europe, and they are all quite hardy. The flowers are red, white and purple. These plants are easy of culture in any dry, sandy soil, and they are particularly suitable for rock-work.

Sarcanthus.

East Indian epiphytes, nearly allied to vanda, which should be grown on logs of wood.

Protection of Roses.

Many plants require protection during the winter, and especially many kinds of roses. They should be carefully bent down to the ground, and fastened there by stakes, and their tops covered with leaves, seaweed, or a light dressing of litter, which is perhaps the better article of covering. Hybrid perpetual roses always should receive this amount of protection. The Bourbon, Noisette, China and Tea varieties are more tender, and require greater care to preserve them through the winter, which may be given in the following manner:—Peg the shoots carefully to the ground, set boards a foot wide around the margin of the bed, fastening them in an upright position with stakes; throw a few leaves and a little dirt over the tops of the plants, then fill up the space within the boards with spent tan-bark, and over the whole lay a few boards, so as to shed the rain. In the spring remove the covering a little at a time, and the plants will be found in perfect health.

In-door Plants.

A few hints concerning the treatment of in-door plants may now prove acceptable. All persons should recollect that plants in the house are more liable to mould and damp off than those out of doors, because, though they may have light and heat, there is no wind to dry up the moisture. Keep well watered, but do not allow the water to stand round the roots. Dust suffered to remain on the leaves of plants is very injurious. Occasional washing of the foliage with a mild decoction of quassia is very excellent—strengthens the plants and destroys insects. Plants should be turned daily, that every part may have an equal amount of sun.

Dwarf Plants.

Tall plants are not desirable for house culture, and yet by a very simple method they may be so dwarfed as to be very attractive. Take a cutting of any plant you may wish to dwarf, and having set it in a pot, wait until you are sure it has taken root, then shift it to another. The pot first used must be very small, and the plant shifted from one pot to another, each increasing but slightly in size. This way of cramping the roots prevents the plant from growing vigorously—it will be healthy and flourishing, but dwarfish, bushy and compact.

Isopogon.

Australian plants, with very curious leaves and flowers, nearly allied to *Banksia*. They should be grown in peat and sand, mixed with a little turfy loam, and the pot should be a third filled with potsherds broken small. These plants are very difficult to cultivate, as they are apt to damp off; the cuttings also are extremely difficult to strike.

Remedy for Bugs.

The decoction of camomile leaves, if sprinkled over plants, will destroy bugs or insects; and the plant itself, if cultivated in a garden, will in a remarkable degree contribute to the health of plants.

Peyronsia.

A genus of bulbous-rooted plants with rather small flowers, generally in corymbs, which require the usual treatment of Cape bulbs—the same treatment as the *Iris*.

Hardenbergia.

A new name given by Mr. Bentham to *Kennedy's monophylla*, Australian climbing shrubs, and five other species of that genus, which have small purplish flowers.

Lilies in Pots.

Among the most beautiful of the lily tribe is the "*Lilium speciosum*," and its varieties—some of which are variegated, as if rubies were stuck all over their petals. To cultivate these in pots, a compost of one-third turfy loam, one-third turfy peat, and one-third decayed cow manure, with sand one-sixth of the whole added, is suitable. Pot them about this season; use large pots, and choose very strong double-crowned bulbs—two or three may be placed in a pot a foot in diameter; drain them well, and plant the bulbs three or four inches below the rim. When the stems are five or six inches long, fill up the pots with the compost, which will cause them to root up the covered part of their stems. As they rise too high for the frames, remove them to the greenhouse, where they will flower in great perfection, and retain their beauty a long time, if shaded from the heat of the sun. Plants are easily raised from seeds sown an inch apart in pans, and placed in heat; when up, place them in the greenhouse for two seasons.

Moya.

The most common species, *Moya carnea*, has curious waxlike flowers, from which drops a sweet, honeylike juice. It is a hothouse climber, which requires a light, rich soil, and is propagated by cuttings, which, however, will not strike without the help of bottom heat. It is sometimes grown in a greenhouse. In a warm situation, exposed to the sun. In this case, it should be trained close to the glass, and a mat, or some other covering, thrown over the roof of the house in severe weather.

Photinia.

A very beautiful evergreen shrub or low tree, formerly called *crataegus glabra*, which is nearly hardy, but thrives best when trained against a wall, in a sheltered situation. The soil should be sandy loam; and the plants are propagated sometimes by cuttings of the ripened wood, but more frequently by grafting or inarching on some of the hardy kinds of *crataegus*.

Dracæna.

The dragon-tree—Eastern trees and shrubs, with the habits of palms. They require the stove in England, and to be grown in peat and loam. The tooth-brushes called dragon's root are made from the root of the tree species cut into pieces about four inches long, each of which is beaten at one end with a wooden mallet, to split it into fibres.

Vicia.

The Vetch. The ornamental species are generally pretty climbing plants with pretty purplish flowers, natives of Europe. Some of the kinds, however, have white, pink, blue and pale yellow flowers. All kinds grow freely in any garden soil, though they thrive most when the soil is deep and sandy; and they are propagated by seeds or division of roots.

Anigozanthus.

Evergreen herbaceous plants from New Holland, with deep crimson flowers, one of which, *anigozanthus mangkessi*, well deserves a place in every greenhouse. It should have abundance of light and air, and grows freely in loam and peat kept moist. It is readily increased by division, or by seeds which it has ripened in this country.

Wanatah.

There is a Wanatah Camilla so called, because its bright crimson color resembles that of the true Wanatah plant or Tolopea of Botany Bay.

Planting Bulbs and Tubers.

Planting bulbs and tubers bears considerable analogy to sowing seeds. The bulb or tuber may indeed be considered as only a seed of larger growth, since it requires the combined influence of air, warmth and moisture to make it vegetate, and then it throws out stem, leaves and roots like a seed. There is, however, one important difference between them; the seed expands its accumulated stock of carbon in giving birth to the root, stem and leaves, after which it withers away and disappears; while the bulb or tuber continues to exist through the whole life of the plant, and appears to contain a reservoir of carbon, which it only parts with slowly and as circumstances require. In preparing the soil for bulbs the earth should be pulverized and enriched to a greater depth than if fixed for seeds. Bulbs in pots should be kept in comparative shade until they begin to start.

Green Flies.

The green flies cover the tender leaves and buds of the young shoots in myriads, and are extremely difficult to destroy, without spoiling the appearance of the shoots which have been attacked by them. Tobacco-water is an excellent remedy, if not too strong. It should be made by steeping half a pound of the best tobacco in a gallon of water—hot water; and as soon as the infusion is cold, the young shoots should be dipped in it, and suffered to remain a few seconds, after which they should be immediately washed in clean cold water before they are suffered to dry. If this be done carefully, the insects will be destroyed and the shoots will remain uninjured. Lime water may also be tried, if no more lime be used than the water will hold in solution; as unless the water be quite clear in appearance when applied, the plant will be very much disfigured with white stains of the lime.

Sollya.

This beautiful little shrub, though only introduced in 1830, is already as common as the Fuchsia, and it is a favorite everywhere. The leaves are evergreen, and the bright blue bell-shaped flowers, which are produced in tufts at the ends of the branches are so elegant that no one can see them without being filled with admiration. The plant is a native of New Holland, and it is nearly hardy, as it will stand in the open air if trained against a wall and slightly protected during the winter. It should be grown in peat and loam or heath mould, and it is propagated by seeds or cuttings. The fruit, which is a berry full of seeds, ripens freely; but the cuttings are very difficult to strike, and indeed, will rarely succeed with bottom heat.

Marica.

Fibrous-rooted plants, with very ornamental flowers, greatly resembling those of the Cape bulbs. Natives of Africa, some of which require a stove, and others a greenhouse, in this climate. They require the same culture as the amaryllis.

Eutaxia.

Australian shrubs, with yellow and orange pea-flowers, which, in England, require a greenhouse. They should be grown in light, peaty soil, and receive the general treatment of Australian shrubs. There are only two species.

Xylosteum.

Only the botanical name for the pretty Fly Honey suckle.

Curious Matters.

Remarkable Incident.

The Paris journals record the following singular and terrible fact:—"A physician, on his return from visiting a patient, ignited a lucifer match for the purpose of lighting his pipe. In doing this a spark fell upon his finger, stuck there, and burnt it. In an instant the pain increased to such a degree that he seized his incision knife, cut out the burnt part, and squeezed as much blood from it as he could. The pain continued to increase, and it was found necessary to amputate the finger. Some hours after the pain seized the whole hand, when he was obliged to lose that member. But it did not end there. The arm was next seized with the same agony; that was also obliged to be amputated. The following day the doctor died."

An astronomical Clock.

There is in the town of Nantucket, Mass., an astronomical clock, made by Hon. Walter Folger, when he was only twenty-two years of age. The plan of the whole of its machinery was matured and completed in his mind before he commenced to put it together. It keeps the correct date of the year, and the figures change as the year changes. The sun and moon, represented by balls, appear to rise and set on the face of the clock, with all their variations and phases, as in the heavens. It also indicates the sun's place in the ecliptic, keeps an account of the motion of the moon's nodes around the ecliptic, and the sun and moon's declination.

Abundance of Weeds.

An English botanist discovered, by careful examination, 7000 weed seeds in a pint of clover seed, 12,800 in a pint of congress seed, 39,440 in a pint of broad clover, and 25,500 of Dutch clover seed. In a single plant of black mustard he counted over 8000 seeds, and in a specimen of charlock, 4000; the seed of a single plant of common dock produced 4700 little docks. The white daisy has over 400 seeds in each flower, and sometimes fifty flowers from one root.

Curious Tenant.

The Mobile Tribune tells the following:—"Yesterday a man was fishing for crabs at one of the wharves, and pulled up a common half-pint bottle. On examination it was found that there was a small crab in the bottle, which could not get out. The crab had evidently got into the bottle, and finding a good, safe harbor, stayed there—but, in the meantime, had grown too large to admit his exit from the bottle."

Curiosities of Bible Literature.

It is a curious fact that there are about five hundred verses in Matthew's gospel that are also in Mark's, more than three hundred verses in Luke that are also in Mark, and about one hundred and twenty that are also in Matthew. Nearly one-half of the gospel by Matthew is to be found in Mark, and more than one-third of the gospel by Luke is to be found in Mark or Matthew.

Singular Superstition.

A man was recently hanged in North Carolina, for a murder which he was incited to commit through a superstitious belief in witchcraft, believing that the old lady he killed had the power to conjure his wife and child to death—and while in a state of intoxication, he committed the deed under an erroneous notion of self-defence.

Louis XIV.'s Bedchamber.

The bedchamber of Louis XIV., in the palace of Versailles, has been again thrown open to the public, after undergoing a complete renovation. Every portion of the furniture has been carefully restored, especially the bed on which the "Grand Monarque" expired. The bedstead, once regarded as a wonder of art, was made by Simon Lalobel, who worked at it for twelve years. On the bed is a coverlet embroidered by the ladies of St. Oyr, which was carried off into Germany during the troubles of the Revolution, and re-purchased by Louis Philippe. Two pictures representing the holy family, on each side of the bed, have been cleaned. The ceiling, which is by Paul Veronese, and was brought from Venice by Napoleon I., is in perfect preservation.

The World's Weight.

Mr. Bailey, the president of the London Astronomical Society, has been for six years weighing the world in different ways, and is now sure that he has obtained its specific gravity so nearly accurate that his figures cannot err more than 0,0068. He places it at 5,6747. The total weight of the world in gross tons of 2240 pounds, according to his scales, is (6,063,165,592,211,410,488,889) six thousand sixty-two million one hundred and sixty-five thousand five hundred and ninety-two billions, two hundred and eleven thousand four hundred and ten millions, four hundred and eighty-eight thousand, eight hundred and eighty-nine tons.

English and American Words.

The different uses of words in England and in this country are interesting. *Lumber*, which with us is applied to sawn timber, means *trash* in England. Where we say *boards*, the Englishman says *deals*. We take *baggage* on a journey; the Englishman only *luggage*. Our ladies are fond of *dry goods*; their English sisters are devoted to *haberdashery*. The Yankee cries *go ahead*; the Britisher says *all right*. The American travels "in the cars;" the Englishman "by the rail." The former sends a letter "by the mail," the latter "by the post." The one has a *bureau* in his bedchamber, the other only a *chest of drawers*.

A living Skeleton.

At the University of Pennsylvania, Professor Leidy lately exhibited to the medical class at his lecture an extraordinary thin man by the name of Brown, from Falls township, Bucks county, Philadelphia. Dr. Lippincott, who introduced him at the University, informed them that he is forty-three years old, five feet ten and a half inches in height, weighs about seventy pounds, and generally enjoys very good health; was actively engaged at all kinds of farm work till twenty years ago, when this wasting away of his flesh commenced and proceeded very rapidly, and soon left him in his present attenuated form, with his intellect bright and unimpaired.

Curious Accident.

A young man named Rooker, living in Chicago, met with a singular accident a few days ago. He had been using a pen-knife for some purpose, and laid it down into his cap. A short time after, forgetting all about the knife, he raised his cap to put it on, when the knife fell out, the blade penetrating entirely through his ear from the inside. The knife remained sticking fast to his ear until he drew it out.

Invention of Bells.

The invention of bells is attributed to Pelonius, Bishop of Nola, Campania, about the year 400. They were first introduced into churches as a defence against thunder and lightning; they were first put up at Croyland Abbey, Lincolnshire, in 945. In the eleventh century and later, it was the custom to baptize them before they were used. The curfew bell was established in 1028. It was rung at eight in the evening, when people were obliged to put out their fires and candles. The custom was abolished in 1100. Bellmen were first appointed in London in 1556, to ring the bells at night and cry out, "Take care of your fire and candle; be charitable to the poor, and pray for the dead."

New Architecture.

A style of architecture new to this country, is beginning to break out in the Fifth Avenue. It consists in the elevation of the roof to the height of about ten feet above the rest of the building, and at a small retreating angle with it. This is slated like an ordinary roof, but is, in effect, an additional half-story with windows. The appearance of the thing is odd and affords an agreeable diversity in the monotonous rows of brown stone fronts, all of the same pattern, which line the fashionable avenue. The style is evidently copied from dwellings on the continent. The fine marble structure now going up just above the Fifth Avenue Hotel, is to be topped off in this fashion.

A Woman Passing as a Man for Forty Years.

A most extraordinary revelation was made at an inquest recently, before the coronor of Salford, England. The body of a man was found in the sluice at Mode Wheel, on the river Irwell, and in the evening an inquest was held. On inquiry, it was found that the deceased, who went by the name of Harry Stokes, was, in fact, a woman; that she had worked as a bricklayer for about a quarter of a century; that she had been twice married during that period; had kept a beer-shop in Manchester during the early part of her career, but in every way conducted herself as a man. The jury, after an examination, returned a verdict of "found drowned."

A Golden Gutter.

The Journal de Constantinople gives an account of a curious religious ceremony which has just taken place in that city. It is the reception by the sultan of the golden gutter in which is collected the rain that falls upon the temple at Mecca, and which thenceforward is considered by the Mussulmans as holy water. This gutter has been carried from Mecca, and received by the sultan with pompous ceremonies. It has been placed in the old palace at Constantinople, where the arms, flags and other memorials of Mohammed are carefully preserved.

Experimenting with Animals.

A Mr. Milne Edwards has been making some experiments in feeding animals whose limbs he had broken, with phosphate of lime. Out of six rabbits and ten dogs, whose legs he broke in the same way, half were fed on food mixed with ground bones, and their bones united much more rapidly than those of the unphosphated animals. He thinks the use in human cases would be decidedly beneficial.

Ingenious Mechanism.

A miniature steam engine, complete in all its details, was exhibited at the California State Fair, of about one rat power, manufactured by Henry Rice, watchmaker, of Sacramento. A steam attachment was formed with a copper pipe no larger in diameter than an ordinary straw, connecting with the boiler outside, from which it received its supply; and when under a full head, its fly-wheel performed over two thousand revolutions a minute. Nothing could be more beautifully accurate in its adjustment. The cylinder has a three sixteenth inch bore, with seven-sixteenth inch stroke. It propelled a small turning-lathe, and elicited from the spectators many complimentary remarks to the skill of its manufacturer.

An ancient Ship.

Ptolemy Philopater, who lived some two hundred years before Christ, had a ship with forty banks of rowers, being 560 English feet in length, being 190 feet longer than the Persia, and only 120 feet shorter than the Great Eastern; seventy-six feet from one side to the other; in height to gunwales it was ninety-six feet, and from the highest part of the stern to the water-line it was 100 feet, and it had four rudders, each sixty feet long. When it put to sea it held more than 4000 rowers and forty supernumeraries, and on the deck were 8000 marines. And besides all these there were a large body of men under the decks, and a vast quantity of provisions and supplies.

A new Ventilator.

A gentleman residing in Middlefield, Ct., says that he has discovered and applied a new plan for ventilating rooms warmed by stoves, which is as follows:—Apply a vertical pipe to the front of the chimney, into which the lower end should enter below the stove-pipe, and the upper end approach within a few inches of the ceiling. In its operation the foul air from the top of the room rushes down into the chimney, to fill a partial vacuum occasioned by the draft from the stove-pipe above. By applying a damper to the pipe, its capacity may be adjusted as desired. This makes a cheap, trustworthy ventilator, and is easily applied.

Curious Statistics.

The following curious account is given in "Appleton's Cyclopædia," of the number of horses in the various parts of the world:—"The general estimate has been eight to ten horses in Europe for every hundred inhabitants. Denmark has forty-five horses to every hundred inhabitants, which is more than any other European country. Great Britain and Ireland have 2,600,000 horses; France, 8,000,000; Austrian empire, exclusive of Italy, 2,600,000; Russia, 3,500,000. The United States have 5,000,000, which is more than any European country. The horses of the whole world are estimated at 57,420,000."

A travelled Needle.

A correspondent of the Manchester Mirror says that a few days since a needle was taken from the outer and lower side of the foot, near the little toe-joint, of Mrs. Ira Atwood, of North Sandwich, New Hampshire, which she swallowed six years since. The needle was a shoe needle, a little over an inch long, and it was whole, but quite rusty. The lady was alarmed at the time she swallowed the needle; but she had felt no inconvenience from it; and had forgotten the circumstance until she felt a pricking in her foot, when the needle was discovered.

The Housewife.

Potatoes Escalloped.

Mash potatoes in the usual way; then butter some nice clean scallop-shells, patty-pans, or teacups, or saucers; put in your potatoes, make them smooth at the top, cross a knife over them, strew a few fine bread crumbs on them, sprinkle them with a paste brush with a few drops of melted butter, and set them in a Dutch oven. When nicely browned on the top, take them carefully out of the shells, and brown on the other side. Cold potatoes may be warmed up this way.

To make Brilla Soup.

Take a shin of beef, cut off all the meat in square pieces, then boil the bone three hours; strain it and take off the fat, then put the broth to boil with the pieces of meat, a few carrots and turnips cut small, a good sprig of thyme, some onions chopped, and a stick of celery cut in pieces; stir them all till the meat is tender. If not cooking brown, you must color it.

Potatoes fried whole.

When nearly boiled enough, put them into a steppan with a bit of butter, or some clean beef drippings; shake them about often to prevent burning, till they are brown and crisp; drain them from the fat. It will be an improvement, if they are floured and dipped in the yolk of an egg, and then rolled in finely sifted bread crumbs.

German Puffs.

A quarter of a pound of almonds beaten very fine in a mortar with rose-water, six eggs well beaten, leaving out two of the whites, two spoonful of flour, two ounces of butter, a little nutmeg, and six ounces of sugar, all well mixed with a pint of cream, baked in buttered patty-pans, served up with wine sauce.

Potato Soones.

Mash boiled potatoes till they are quite smooth, adding a little salt; then knead out flour or barley-meal to the thickness required; toast on a griddle, pricking them with a fork to prevent them blistering. When eaten with fresh or salt butter, they are equal to crumpets, even superior, and very nutritious.

A plain Custard.

Boil a pint of new milk, keeping a little back to mix with a tablespoonful of flour. Thicken the milk with the flour, let it cool a little, then add one egg well beaten. Sweeten to taste. Set it on the fire again, and stir until the egg turns, but do not let it boil. A little lemon or almond may be added.

Apple Egg Pudding.

Beat an egg well, then add a gill of water or milk, seven tablespoonful of flour, and a saltspoonful of salt. Mix well together. Pare and cut in pieces three middle-sized apples; stir them into the batter; boil in a cloth an hour; eat with melted butter, flavored with lemon.

Johnny Cake.

Take a quart of sour milk, a teaspoonful of salt, sifted meal to make a stiff batter, a teaspoonful of dissolved saleratus; butter a pan, and bake nearly an hour.

To clean Knife Handles.

Bone or Ivory handles of knives may be cleaned, when they have turned yellow, by rubbing them with fine emery.

New Weather-Glass.

A correspondent says:—"For some years I have been in the habit of watching the condition of the gum in my wife's camphor bottle, and when not disturbed it makes a capital weather-glass. It answers as well as a barometer. When there is to be a change of weather, from fair to windy or wet, the thin flakes of gum will rise up; and sometimes, when there was to be a great storm, I have seen them at the top. When they settle clearly at the bottom, then we are sure of grand weather."

To preserve Ivory Knife-Handles whole.

Never let knife-blades stand in hot water as is sometimes done to make them wash easily. The heat expands the steel which runs up into the handle a very little, and this cracks the Ivory. Knife-handles should never be in water. A handsome knife, or one used for cooking, is soon spoiled in this way.

Bakers' Yeast.

Boil two ounces of hops one hour in nine quarts of water, take seven pounds of mashed potatoes, when the liquor is milk-warm, and add one pound of sugar, two ounces of carbonate of soda, half an ounce of spirits of wine, one pound of flour, and half a pint of brewers' yeast to work it.

Bran Tea.

A very cheap and useful drink in colds, fevers, and restlessness from pain. Put a handful of bran in a pint and a half of cold water, let it boil rather more than half an hour, then strain it, and, if desired, flavor with lemon juice; but it is a pleasant drink without any addition.

A Receipt for Pomade.

Three ounces of olive oil, three-quarters of a drachm of the oil of almonds, two drachms of palm oil, half an ounce of white wax, a quarter of a pound of lard, and three-quarters of a drachm of the essence of bergamot.

To cleanse Gold.

Wash the article in warm suds made of delicate soap and water, with ten or fifteen drops of sal volatile. (The sal volatile will render the metal brittle—this hint may be used or left at pleasure.)

A good Shaving Paste.

White wax, spermaceti and almond oil, of each a quarter of an ounce; melt, and while warm beat in two squares of Windsor soap, previously reduced to a paste with rose-water.

Preserving Milk.

Take any quantity of really fresh milk, put it into a bottle well corked, and plunge it into boiling water a quarter of an hour.

Remedy for House Ants.

Go at once to the nest and pour boiling water into it until the ants are destroyed. If they come in through a crack, stop it up.

Felons.

To cure felons on the finger apply the spinal marrow of the ox on a piece of cotton rag, changing it every four hours.

Soap.

Soft soap should be kept in a dry place in the cellar and should not be used till three months old.

Cheap and Hasty Pudding.

Take one common teaspoonful of sugar, three eggs, one tablespoonful of butter, three tablespoonful of sweet milk, one tablespoonful of baking powder, and flour enough to make of the consistency of sponge cake. Divide it in three parts, and bake quick in patty-pans. Put any kind of stewed fruit or mashed berries between each cake, and serve with a sauce of butter, sugar, a little seasoning to taste, and a small quantity of boiling water.

Harico of a Neck of Mutton.

Cut the best end of a neck of mutton into chops, flatten them, and fry them a light brown; then put them into a large saucepan with two quarts of water, and a large carrot cut in slices. When they have stewed a quarter of an hour add two turnips cut in slices, the white part of a head of celery, a few heads of asparagus, some cabbage leaves, and pepper to your taste; boil all together till it becomes tender. The gravy is not to be thickened.

Pickled Sweet Apples.

To half a peck of apples make a syrup of two pounds of sugar and one pint of vinegar. Boil the apples in this syrup until tender, then remove them, make a syrup of two and one-half pounds of sugar and one pint of vinegar. Add one teaspoonful of cloves and the same of cinnamon tied in a bag. Boil the syrup twenty minutes, and pour it hot over the fruit.

Wine Posset.

Take a quart of new milk and the crumbs of a very small loaf, or roll, and boil them till they are soft; when you take it off the fire, grate in half a nutmeg, add some sugar to your liking, and then put it into a china bowl, and pour into it a pint of Lisbon wine carefully, a little at a time, or it will make the curd hard and tough. Serve it with toast.

Broiled Pigeons.

Procure young pigeons, draw them, split them down the back, and season them with pepper and salt; lay them on a grilliron with the breast upward; turn them, but be careful you do not burn the skin; rub them over with butter, and keep turning them until they are done enough; dish them up, and pour over them melted butter.

Corn Cake for Breakfast.

Mix at night two quarts of corn meal with water enough to make it stir easy, adding a small portion of yeast and salt. In the morning stir in three or four eggs, a little soda, and with a spoon beat it long and hard. Butter a tin pan, pour the mixture into it, and bake it immediately for about half an hour in a moderately heated oven.

Mashed Potatoes.

Mash them in a saucepan, adding milk, butter and salt until nicely seasoned; beat the potato until it becomes very light. Keep it near the fire; afterwards turn it into a dish, smooth it, and spread over the top the white of an egg, then brown a few minutes in the oven.

Poisons.

Poisons of any description, which have been intentionally or accidentally swallowed, may be rendered almost instantly harmless by simply swallowing two gills of sweet oil.

Sago Pudding.

Take two ounces of sago, boil it in water with a stick of cinnamon till it be quite soft and thick; let it stand till quite cold. In the meantime grate the crumb of a small loaf, and pour over it a large glass of red wine. Chop four ounces of marrow, adding half a pound of sugar and the yolks of four beaten eggs; beat them all together for a quarter of an hour, lay a puff paste round your dish, pour into it the mixture, and bake it a suitable time. Before serving it, stick it over with blanched almonds and bits of citron cut lengthwise.

Partridge in Panes.

Half roast two partridges, take the flesh from them, and mix it with a moderate quantity of bread crumbs steeped in rich gravy, half a pound of fat bacon scraped; two artichoke bottoms boiled and shred fine; the yolks of three eggs, pepper, salt, nutmeg and some lemon-peel cut very fine. Work all together, and bake in moulds the shape of an egg. Serve it up cold, or in jelly.

Rice Flour Pudding.

To one quart of fresh milk boiled add twelve teaspoonsful of rice flour (previously mixed smooth with a little cold milk), six eggs (the whites and yolks having been beaten separately), and a little salt. Then bake it carefully, and serve it with a sauce made of cream, butter, sugar, wine and a little nutmeg.

Quaking Pudding.

Boil one quart of cream, and let it stand till almost cold; then beat four eggs a full quarter of an hour with a spoonful and a half of flour; then mix them with your cream, adding sugar and nutmeg to your taste. Tie the mixture close up in a cloth well buttered, let it boil an hour, and turn it carefully out.

Panada.

Grate some crumbs of bread, and boil them in a pint of water, with an onion and a few whole peppers, till the mixture becomes thick and soft; then add two ounces of butter, a little salt, and half a pint of thick cream; stir it till it is like a fine custard, pour it into a deep plate, and serve it up.

Wild Ducks, hashed.

Cut up your duck as for eating, and put it in a pan, with a spoonful of good gravy, and the same quantity of red wine, and an onion sliced exceedingly thin. When it has boiled two or three minutes, lay the duck in a dish, pour the gravy over it, and add a teaspoonful of caper liquor.

Sago with Milk.

Wash your sago with warm water, and set it over the fire, with a stick of cinnamon, and as much water as will boil it thick and soft; then put in as much new milk or cream as will make it a proper thickness; grate in half a nutmeg, sweeten it to your taste, and serve in a china bowl.

Water Gruel.

Take one spoonful of oatmeal and boil it in three pints of water for one hour and a half, or till it is smooth and fine; then take it off the fire and let it stand to settle; then pour it into a china bowl, and add white wine, sugar and a nutmeg. Serve it hot, with some buttered toast.

Editor's Table.

MATURIN M. BALLOU, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

THE TRAGEDY OF CITIES.

If we nowhere find the sunny side of life more splendid and attractive than in great cities, so also we nowhere find its shadows blacker or more funereal. To the moralist, how full of lessons is the life of one of these great centres of civilization! What an epitome of the tragedy-comedy which we call life does it present! Take a recent occurrence, which has been currently noted by the press, but detailed to us in a private letter from Paris, and ponder its ghastly features! The fashionable hive in the environs of the gay French capital is the Bois de Boulogne. It has been beautifully decorated with all that adds a charm to graceful and romantic nature. Yet the horses of the gay riders through its woodland paths, started at a strange object by the wayside—a lifeless human form hanging from a tree. One of the horsemen recognized the figure as that of a member of one of the oldest families in France.

The Count de Courtain was well known in former days as one of the most brilliant frequenters of Frascati's. Day and night he haunted the green cloth, and staked and lost the whole of a splendid fortune. Still he continued to haunt the pandemonium, borrowing, now and then, a trifle to try his luck. But fortune never smiled on him, and he sank deeper and deeper into the abyss of poverty. His friends assisted him, till it was folly to assist him. All the money he received, by whatever means, was swallowed up by the fatal bank. At last he only owed his daily bread, and a shelter for his head, to a wretched old fortune-teller who had once, like himself, known better days, and been the flattered idol of the theatre-going public, while her youth and beauty lasted.

But the old woman's profession at last ceased to bring her in anything, and, one by one, their miserable articles of furniture and dress were sold, to satisfy the cravings of hunger and the demands of the landlord. And one day, while the fortune-teller was absent, trying to beg a few sous, the inexorable landlord turned the old count out of doors, almost naked. A compassionate fellow-lodger gave him a greasy cap, a ragged sack, and a pair of patched pantaloons. But where was he to go? He had not a friend

left in the world. Starving and desperate, he tottered out to the Bois de Boulogne, and with the aid of a tattered neckcloth, hung himself. His body was conveyed to the dead house, but no one claimed it, and it was tossed into a common grave in the public cemetery.

Yet still the billiard-balls click, and the dice rattle, in the day-bright saloons of Paris. Still infatuated gamblers flutter, like moths around a candle, about the bright piles of gold before the *croupier*. Fascinating is *Rouge-et-Noir*! "Make your game, gentlemen, while the ball rolls!" The other day a wretched man, after losing his last son, blew his brains out at the table. They threw a cloth over the mutilated face, and took away the body; and the monotonous call went on—"Make your game, gentleman, while the ball rolls!" Reader, should you like to try your luck?

THE WELCOME GUEST.

No sooner had our first number of this brilliant new paper been issued than the orders for it poured in upon us beyond all precedent, exhausting the edition, and compelling us to re-print it. Being of the mammoth size, and entirely filled with original and attractive reading matter, it is a marvel of interest and beauty. Several of our cotemporaries have frankly declared it to be the handsomest and most perfect weekly journal that has yet been produced in this country. Any one already a subscriber to the *Dollar Magazine* can receive *The Welcome Guest* for \$1 50 a year, thus making it the cheapest paper in America!

A CASE FOR THE LAWYERS.—We are always being told that "property has its rights;" but surely, in the matter of gloves and boots, property has its lefts as well as its rights.

O, DEAR!—The *Paris Pays* makes the extraordinary announcement that the people of Maine ardently desire to be annexed to Canada!

BOSTON.—If you would form a just idea of the rapid growth of this city, just take a walk from Dover Street, on Tremont, to Roxbury line.

THE AGE OF HUMBUG.

Some people have been disposed to call the period we live in "the age of humbug," and they cite examples constantly occurring around us to prove the justice of the term. Only a few years since, they say, there was Matthias, the prophet, who pretended to be a messenger from Heaven, a new Messiah, gifted with divine power—among other gifts, that of being able to walk on the water—and though he was a vulgar fellow, though the sword he professed to have received from Heaven to wield as a symbol of authority, was a second-hand one that had belonged to a United States officer, and had an eagle and the maker's arms on the blade, though there were a thousand other proofs of his audacious imposture, still, he found followers even among shrewd business men, who yielded him their assent and their dollars. They point us to the vulgar impostor, Joe Smith, and to the vast array of followers that have sprung up from his ashes. Is it not the age of humbug? Why, but a short time since an English fortune-teller, a "Gipseey Queen," stopping at the plantation of Mr. Hezekiah Ferris, in Winchester, Franklin county Tennessee, told so palpable a story, that the hospitality of the plantation was tendered her. In a short time, she had completely secured the confidence of Mr. Ferris. On the day appointed for her departure, she called her host aside, and assuming an air of mystery, told him that an immense amount of gold was buried beneath his lands, which could only be secured after compliance with certain directions which she would give. The sugar planter was willing to do anything she might propose, and soon procured \$3000 in gold coin, which the queen said was necessary to enable her to commence operations. This money was to be placed in an earthen jar, covered with dirt, and the jar was to remain untouched for twelve days in a trunk, the key of which the queen was to keep. Mr. Ferris having acceded to these terms, the spell was initiated amid prayers and incantations. It is charged that the sorceress substituted lead for the gold at the first opportunity, and then departed, to return at the expiration of the twelve days. In the interval, Mr. Ferris was commanded to keep the whole matter a profound secret. The injunction was religiously complied with, but on the thirteenth day the deception was of course discovered.

But why multiply instances? Yet, after all, this is not pre-eminently the age of humbug. We must look to the elder and dark ages of the world. Then it seemed as if the community were divided into humbuggers and humbugged. Pop-

ular errors became hardened, crystallized and permanent. They endured year after year. With us, they have their season and then explode. Moreover, though it is a consoling fact for those who live by their wits, that there will always be plenty of fools in the world, still it cannot be denied that the number is decreasing. Humbugging is not the facile trade it used to be. It requires talent and tact, ingenuity and money. It is not a sure thing. It is hard to practise humbug, and less discreditable to be humbugged now than formerly. For one charlatan that succeeds, there are twenty that fail miserably. The world sees the success; it knows nothing of the failure, and hence we are apt to come to erroneous conclusions. The time, however, is approaching, even if gradually, when the light of intelligence will be so broad and steady, that deception will cease to be practised on any great scale, though

"Doubtless the pleasure is as great
In being cheated as to cheat."

THE WELCOME GUEST.

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THE WELCOME GUEST.

Step into the nearest periodical depot and get a copy, for *four cents*, of this new and brilliant weekly journal. It is full of good things, fresh and beautiful from the beginning to the end.

FOR COFFEE MANUFACTURERS.—The peanut is extensively cultivated in California, and will in a few years form an important article of commerce.

IN THE FAMILY.—A good weekly newspaper in a family, is worth more to the children than three hours' "schooling" per diem.

WORTH KNOWING.—A hot shovel held over varnished furniture will take out the white spots that may stain it.

RASCALLY.—The Mormons are still perpetrating fearful outrages upon the emigrant trains.

THE WIRES.—The telegraph wires are fast stretching from one end to the other of California.

A BAD BREAKING OUT.—Sixty "spots" on the sun may now be seen with a good telescope.

SILVER.—Some of the newly-discovered silver mines in California are wonderfully rich.

ACCEPTED MASONS.

At an inn in a town in the west of England, several people were sitting round the fire in a large kitchen, through which there was a passage to other parts of the house, and among the company there was a travelling woman and a tailor. In this inn was a lodge of Free and Accepted Masons held, and it being lodge night, several of the members passed through the kitchen in their way to the lodge apartments. This introduced observations on the principles of Masonry, and the occult signs by which Masons could be known to each other. The woman said there was not so much mystery as people imagined, for that she could show anybody the Mason's sign.

"What," said the tailor, "that of the Free and Accepted?"

"Yes," she replied, "and I will wager you a half-crown bowl of punch, to be confirmed by any of the members you please to nominate."

"Why," said he, "a woman was never admitted, and how is it possible you can procure it?"

"No matter for that," said she, "I will readily forfeit the wager if I do not establish the fact."

The company urged the unfortunate tailor to accept the challenge, which he at last agreed to, and the bet was deposited. The woman got up, and took hold of the tailor by the collar, saying:

"Come, follow me," which he did, trembling alive, fearing he was to undergo some part of the discipline in the making of a Mason, of which he had heard a most dreadful report.

She led him into the street, and, pointing to the sign of the Lion and Lamb, asked him whose sign it was. He answered:

"It is Mr. Loder's" (the name of the inn-keeper).

"Is he a freemason?"

"Yes."

"Then," said the woman, "I have shown you the sign of a Free and Accepted Mason."

The laugh was so much against poor Snip for having been taken in, that it was with some difficulty he could be prevailed on to partake of the punch.

QUICK WORK.—A letter was lately sent from Paris to New York and a reply received back in Paris in three weeks, four days and nine hours. The Vanderbilt out and the Persia back were the mediums of transmission.

A SLIGHT HINT.—A woman may laugh too much. It's a fact, for only a comb can always afford to show its teeth.

FLAYED ALIVE.

Some weeks since, a story went the rounds of the press, to the effect that a Mr. Haynes of Grayville, Indiana, having killed a squaw on the plains, was seized by a band of Indians, who, by the way of revenge, flayed him alive, and turned him loose to die. A correspondent of the Brother Jonathan gives the following interesting sequel to the narrative: "As I live within eighteen miles of that place, and know the unhappy man well, it may be interesting to your numerous readers to learn the sequel of that fearful and bloody event. It seems that after the Indians had got his skin, poor Haynes felt faint, and suffered a good deal of pain, as was very natural. One of his companions, in a spirit of compassion, offered the Indians a keg of whiskey for the skin, which the savages promptly accepted. Another contributed a box of Bump's all-healing salve, with which they anointed their flayed friend, and then drew on his skin again. The latest we have heard from the poor man is that 'the skin had took root,' and he was doing well. In the hurry of replacing it, however, his face was unfortunately set the wrong way, so that he will entirely lose the use of his nose, which now shows itself on the back of his head. Nevertheless, the man is in good spirits, and says that if he finds it inconvenient, he can easily overhaul the redskins again, get re-skinned, and then he will be particular to have the mistake corrected. Trusting this news from the flayed man will relieve the 'horrors' with which your readers must have perused the first account of his misfortune, I am, sir, truly yours."

VERY GOOD.—Theodore Hook was walking, in the days of Warren's blacking, where one of the emissaries of that shining character had written on the wall, "Try Warren's B——," but had been frightened from his propriety, and fled. "The rest is 'lacking,'" said the wit.

FUNNY.—A certain cockney once defined love to be nothing more than "an insane desire to pay a young woman's board."

FORGETFUL.—There is a man about Boston, just now, so near-sighted that he does not know himself two yards off—after dinner!

COMPLIMENTARY, VERY.—It is a fact that the bees mistake our Yankee girls for flowers, and "up" and sting them accordingly!

COAL.—Coal has been discovered in Van Buren county, Iowa.

CIVILIZATION OF THE GORILLA.

We have noticed with much satisfaction that Mr. Paul du Chailu, of New York, an enthusiastic naturalist and hunter, has succeeded in bringing into this country several fine specimens of that newly discovered race of Troglodytes, known as Gorillas. Unlike most of the genus Simia, these fine fellows are, some of them, five and a half feet high, and one of them, it is stated, would be more than a match for any three champions of the ring in the world. What an accession to our population! If they can only be acclimated, what great results may flow from their introduction!

Much, of course, remains to be done with them. They are now in a crude state, and while commanding the admiration which the development of muscle is now everywhere exciting, in many respects they fall far below the popular standard. For instance, in spite of their extraordinary strength, they are peaceable and well-disposed, and are absurd enough to confine themselves to a fruit and vegetable diet, and the use of water alone as a beverage. But we do not despair of their reformation when subjected to the refining influences of our modern civilization. We have no doubt that they will learn from example to bully and swagger, to chew tobacco and to drink rum. When this is accomplished, they may take that rank in society which is justly their due. It is true that they cannot speak, but what of that? the gift of gab is so much abused in this country that it is really refreshing to find a living being destitute of it. The contrast between their silence and the insane utterances of our "swells" would not be striking or disadvantageous. When taught to walk erect habitually, and dressed in the height of fashion, it will require a nice eye to detect any difference between a civilized gorilla and a Broadway dandy.

A nice judgment and frequent experiment will be requisite to determine their social status, but eventually, we think, they will be nicely dovetailed into the brilliant mosaic of society. We see nothing to prevent their becoming admirable waltzers, and mastering the complications of the "lancers." This done, they will be most welcome guests at the balls of Fifth Avenuedledom, for they will be untiring. As male dancers on the stage, the educated gorilla would always command an engagement. Fancy one of them seizing Mlle. Hennecart, or Laura Wiadel in his arms and leaping up into the "flies!" It would be a stunning exhibition.

Politics, of course, would engage much of the time and attention of our civilized gorillas. They would be invaluable at primary elections,

and inestimable at the polls. They could easily be taught to distinguish the right ticket by the color, and then how gloriously they would hammer the rebels who attempted to vote any other! A troop of gorillas would beat all the shoulder-hitters in creation in the exercise of the high and enlightened privilege of smashing ballot-boxes.

We might expatiate on this theme to the extent of a volume, but we must resist the temptation from regard to our limits. We dare not hint even at all that our imagination suggests for the possible future of the gorilla in this free and happy country. We dare not say what the gorilla, capable of social distinction, enriched by industry and tact, might not aspire to; we dare not speak of the smiles of beauty; we dare not hint, as the result of the possession of gold and diamonds, worthily won and generously bestowed, at—at—a gorilla wedding!

CAN'T BE BEAT.—Among the vegetables exhibited at the recent California State Horticultural Fair, were a cabbage weighing fifty-three pounds, and a beet weighing one hundred and fifteen pounds. The latter is four feet long and nearly a foot through. It is two years old, having been replanted after exhibition last year, when it weighed forty-two pounds. There were stalks of corn twenty feet high with full ears sixteen inches long.

HIGH PRICE FOR A BOOK.—A copy of the first edition of Boccaccio's "Decameron" was sold in 1812, to the Duke of Marlborough, for two thousand two hundred and sixty pounds sterling, equal to nearly twelve thousand dollars. It is supposed that this is the highest sum ever paid for a book.

WESTERN JEWS.—The Jews of Cincinnati have agreed to close their places of business on the Christian Sunday, and to allow no business to be transacted on that day in their stores and offices.

NOVEL RACE.—The Albany Knickerbocker says a fellow in Albany is training a lobster to run a foot race with the one-horse steamer at the Bath Ferry. The lobster is to carry weight.

MYSTERY.—Mystery magnifies danger, as a fog the sun. The hand that warned Belshazzar derived its horrifying influence from its want of a body.

GOOD OLD AGE.—There is now in Liverpool a person named Elizabeth Roberts, who has attained to the age of 110.

THE MISSION OF ROMANCE.

A narrow-minded person might be led to argue, from the multiplication of fictitious writings, romances, novels, novelettes and tales, that the public taste was degenerating, and that the public mind was incapable of relishing and digesting solid mental aliment. But such a conclusion would be illogical and inconsistent with facts. Any bookseller will tell you that his historical and biographical works, his scientific essays, travels and sermons, meet with a ready sale, and the very persons who purchase his novels are the customers for his graver books; in other words, that a taste for fiction is no longer inconsistent with a taste for fact.

The truth is, that the character of fiction has changed with the times, and that truth must be the basis of romance-writing to be successful. The old antagonism to novels was neither bigotry nor prejudice. The character of the old-fashioned novel, with a few honorable exceptions, justified the war that good men waged on that species of literature. It was either absurd, frivolous or immoral; either wildly imaginative or detestably gross. When Don Quixote's best friends made a bonfire of his romances of chivalry, they were only serving rubbish as it deserved, and the hangman would have done the world good service if he had served in the same way nine-tenths of all the fictitious stuff of the past century. But bigotry continued the proscription which good sense initiated. The evil reputation of romance survived its sins. It remained for Scott and his splendid followers and compeers to achieve, during the present century, and within the memory of many of us, a complete "rehabilitation" of the proscribed novel. Scott, at first, "lone sitting by the shores of old romance," succeeded by his splendid pictures of the past in awakening the world to a relish for the gorgeous truths of history, and for faithful portraits of human nature. It was the element of truth embodied in his fictions, which gave them universal currency. His characters lived and moved and had their being. They are to us as actual existences as people whom we have met face to face. These stories of the great "wizard of the north" have led us to study history and human nature more closely; instead of weakening and disciplining the mind, they have led to its culture and strengthening. And centuries before, be it reverently said, the founder of our religion made the divine truths he imparted, more impressive by embodying them in the form of parables, professed fictions clothing undeniable truths.

Religious novels now form a large class by

themselves; but in all modern novels, truth is essential. The teachers of the million, recognizing the legitimate mission of romance, resort to it for enforcing their views. We have the religious novel, the moral novel, and the political novel; novels of society, novels of history, novels of war and the sea; we have even the prophetic novel, shadowing forth the possible future. The novel and the story of to day are what to some extent the drama was, and what it might be, the mirror of life. The great minds of the nineteenth century have recognized the truth, that, in dealing with human nature, it is worse than useless to war with innate tastes, and that the better way is to mould and shape instruction to the channels in which they flow. So that writers of fiction need no longer hang their heads, deeming theirs an "idle and unprofitable calling," but look the world boldly in the face, and take their ranks as teachers and benefactors. So long as this old globe of ours rolls on its axis, just so long will the popular mind crave for fiction and receive it.

HEAR THE OLD MAN.—The venerable and Rev. Daniel Waldo says: "I am now an old man. I have seen nearly a century. Do you want to know how to grow old slowly and happily? Let me tell you. Always eat slowly—masticate well. Go to your food, to your rest, to your occupation, smiling. Keep a good nature and a soft temper everywhere. Never give way to anger—a violent temper of passion tears down the constitution more than a typhus fever."

A LONG TIME.—An advertisement, setting forth the many conveniences and advantages to be derived from metal window sashes, among other particulars, said, "that they would last forever, and afterwards, if the owner had no further use for them, they might be sold for old iron."

SKATES.—Last fall and winter our market was completely emptied of this article, none to be had; this year it is apparently overstocked.

DANCING GOTHAM.—Young New York is fond of dancing. Two professors there have 1100 pupils each.

CINCINNATI.—A superb new hospital is about to be erected in the queen city of the West.

PROGRESS.—An Arab newspaper has just been started at Beyrout.

A GALLANT BOY.

A brave little boy who was left alone in charge of a dentist's office and lodgings in New Orleans, recently, was awakened in the night by the entrance of a burglar. With eyelids opened merely to a line, he saw him step to the side of the bed, look through the mosquito bar, and bend his head down to listen if the occupant betrayed signs of being awake. Satisfied with the scrutiny, the burglar took a piece of candle from his vest pocket and lighted it with a match. He then raised the mosquito bar and put his head under, holding the light in one hand and a bowie-knife in the other, the blade lying against the fore part of his arm. The lad preserved an appearance as if he slept, and fully satisfied with the last examination, the burglar stealthily and slowly passed into the apartment adjoining. The boy got quietly out of bed and made across the room which the thief had just left, to a drawer where were two pistols. The noise made in obtaining them was heard by the burglar, who rushed back and made at the boy, with knife uplifted, and his left hand at a pistol which he had by his side. The little fellow was equal to the emergency, for he stood firm, holding a pistol in each hand, presented at the thief. The burglar did not dare to advance, but retreated slowly, followed by the lad with pistols extended. He had succeeded in cocking one of the derringers only, but hesitated to fire lest he might miss. As the burglar went, he fell over a chair, but before the boy could decide upon shooting, was on his pins again, making out into the court and climbing up the ladder. Then the boy tried what the derringer could do, and fired as he was trying to get on the wall. The ball unfortunately missed, and the thief escaped, says the Delta.

NARROW QUARTERS.—A friend at our elbow says there is a piece of road not two miles from here so narrow, that when two teams meet they have both to get over the fence before either can pass.

IT IS SO.—If it were not for some singular people who persist in thinking for themselves, in seeing for themselves, and in being comfortable, we should all collapse into a hideous uniformity.

AN AFFECTIONATE BUILDING.—In the advertisement of a new hotel, it is said, "it embraces about 60 rooms."

DON'T DO IT.—Repining at losses is only putting pepper into a sore eye.

CHEWING GUM.

Trifling as the subject may appear, says the Brunswick (Me.) Telegraph, yet it is of importance. If it is of importance to have sound teeth in middle life and old age, proper precaution must be used in childhood. The habit of chewing gum is like applying small air-pumps to the bases of the teeth. When the gum is separated from the tooth, it forms a vacuum between itself and the tooth, and the consequence is a violent strain on the dental nerves. The bad results may not show themselves immediately, but the boy or girl who indulges in the habit may calculate on having rotten teeth when in the prime of life. Nor is this all. The habit, like tobacco chewing, induces an unnatural flow of the humors towards the mouth, where it must be ejected as saliva. This is bad enough when it can be ejected; but when, from sickness or other causes, the habit must be discontinued, the result may be, and no doubt has been, fatal. Let young persons and their parents take heed.

AN AUDIENCE OF ONE.—A theatrical company stopping at Bucyrus, Ohio, was hired by a stranger to give him a special performance of Richard III., with a farce thrown in, for \$35. Choosing an eligible position, and cocking his feet upon the back of the seat in front of him, "the audience" attended to the play, which was exceedingly well done, applauded vigorously at different points, and at the close calling out the leading actors, the manager responding for the company in a speech.

A REAL BLESSING.—A man speaking of a place out West, in a letter which he writes home, says that it's a perfect paradise. and that though most all the folks have the fever-'n'-ager, yet it's a great blessing, for it's the only exercise they take. We never thought of that before.

KERN.—We do not remember a sharper reflection than that of the poet Rogers, lately printed in London; he said that Mr. Croker, the author of the article in the Quarterly Review on Macaulay's History, intended murder, but had committed suicide.

WEALTH OF NEW ORLEANS.—The total amount of taxable property in New Orleans, this year, is \$111,193,800. Last year it was \$108,651,100, showing an increase of \$2,542,700.

EQUALITY OF THE SEXES.—Religion and sorrow make men and women equals in tenderness and tears, in compassion and love.

Foreign Miscellany.

A Scotch clergyman lately read an original tragedy on the story of Saul from his pulpit.

In France, it is now the fashion for ladies to dress very simply at the opera.

Lola Montes has an annuity of \$2500 from the estate of her former husband.

It is stated that 4000 persons die annually of small pox in England.

China edible birds' nests in the crude state sell in Paris for \$70 per cwt.

The oldest known painting in the world is a Madonna and child of 886.

The King of Siam is said to have named a son George Washington.

The house in which John Huss, the great reformer, was born, at Husinec in Bohemia, was recently destroyed by fire.

The books in the library belonging to the British Museum, in London, occupy ten miles of shelf.

There is, probably, no country in the world where the refined and the educated of the female sex take more of out door exercise than in England.

An association of the members of the clergy in England have published an address in which they pledge themselves to a total abstinence from the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage. The Rev. Dr. Close, Dean of Carlisle, heads the list.

One of the Armstrong guns, of heavy calibre, has been lodged in the Citadel at Quebec. It will be mounted upon the cavalier of the Flagstaff Battery, from which elevation it will have the range of and command the whole bay.

They have in Philadelphia a Fuel Savings Society. Small deposits are received through the year, by ten of the druggists of the city, from those who wish to participate in the benefits of the association, and, in return, coal is furnished them at wholesale prices.

The London Morning Post says that a dog of African breed, which belonged to General Espinasse, who fell at Magenta, still lurks about the spot where he shed his blood, and though often taken away, even to some distance, constantly returns.

The Theatre Lyrique of Paris has been purchased by the city for the sum of 1,400,000*f*. The city enters into possession on the 15th of February, but nothing is yet decided as to when the theatre will be pulled down, nor as to the indemnity to be paid to the director.

In the island of Singapore tigers are now so numerous, that a man per day is devoured by them. The Chinese and Malays seldom report the disappearance of their friends, so that about 700 persons are annually devoured in a single island which has but a few leagues of surface.

The largest chain cable ever known is now being made at Pentypridd, Wales, for the use of her majesty's service. The section of iron of each link contains 1296 circular eighths of an inch, being 767 more than the cable of the Great Eastern, and double the size in diameter of those used for first-class men-of-war.

Austria owes her Bank of Vienna 80,000,000 florins, and is "hard up" financially.

Louis Napoleon has been inventing a new cannon on the principle of Colt's revolver.

During the siege of Sebastopol, the English expended 2,775,360 lbs. of powder.

Thackeray will receive \$10,000 a year for editing the new London serial, if it succeeds.

A London paper's Paris letter says Louis Napoleon will soon have a fleet of 22 steel-plated ships of the line—proof against everything but lightning.

The French government is gathering sea-weed to serve as wadding for artillery. It is said to be better than cotton, keeping the iron cool, and not liable to ignition.

A letter from a European wine merchant says that the vintage of Port was never so short as during the present year, while Sherry is only about one-quarter of the usual vintage.

The average armed force employed in the British colonies during the last five years has been 42,693 men, at an expense of £3,182,743, or about \$16,000,000.

Dr. Livingstone finds himself unable to prosecute his African explorations without a more powerful steamer than the fragile one hitherto employed on the Zambesi, and has appealed to friends in England for assistance.

A small steamer has been built in England of steel plates one-eighth of an inch in thickness. She is 70 feet long, 12 feet broad, and 6 1-2 feet deep, and measured 20 tons. She has proved an admirable sea boat.

In London a singular case of homicide occurred. Two men quarrelled in the street, when one knocked the other over. The prostrate man had a pipe in his mouth, which was forced down his throat, producing death. His assailant was committed on a charge of manslaughter.

The youngest son of the Viceroy of Egypt, Tousseon Pacha, who arrived some days ago in Paris from London, notwithstanding his extreme youth, speaks several European languages; he is accompanied by an English governess, a French physician, and a numerous suite.

As a sample of California forest trees, the Placerville Observer states that a tree lately cut, a few miles from Sierra Nevada, furnished, at the saw-mill, 10,240 feet of sawed lumber. A single log from another tree, of twelve feet in length, and sixty-five inches in diameter at the smallest end, made over 2000 feet of lumber.

"A very valuable discovery," says the Akhkar, "has just been made in Algeria of a tree which grows in great abundance here, and which has the property of dyeing a most beautiful black, so that it will advantageously replace sumach, nut galls, and other substances hitherto used.

M. De Beriot, the famous violinist, has partially completed the sale of his violin to M. Wienawski, another artist, for twenty thousand francs, or nearly four thousand dollars. The instrument is quite a famous one, and the last mentioned gentleman has taken the refusal of it at the above price. A rather expensive instrument that!

Record of the Times.

Vulcanized India rubber is found to be the best material for the manufacture of flutes.

The aggregate public debt of Virginia on the first of October was \$30,190,000.

The height of the Washington Monument is to be six hundred feet.

Twenty-five gambling houses are in one little circuit of the business portion of Chicago.

The corn crop of the United States, this year, is estimated at 900,000,000 bushels.

Oberlin College, Ohio, has 1253 students; of these, 488 are females.

A tunnel through the earth, from New England to New Zealand would be eight thousand miles long.

St. Helena has been recently made a bishop's see, by her majesty's letters patent. The bishop was consecrated in England.

A Connecticut schoolmistress having a troublesome big boy to manage, sat down upon him. She was a large woman, and quite "crushed out" his insubordination.

A hunter in Tolumus county, California, in climbing down into a ravine after a bear, struck a lead which yielded, in one week, \$7000 worth of gold.

The Maharajah of Cashmere has sent as a present to Queen Victoria a most costly shawl tent, which will contain moreover a bedstead of solid gold. The value of this royal offering is said to exceed fifteen lacs (£150,000).

A vein, or rather a formation, some thirty or forty feet wide, containing platinum and gold, has lately been discovered near Fredericktown, Missouri. The richness of the ore is not yet known.

It is stated that Stieglitz, the great Russian banker, who is about to retire, has a capital of fifty-six million dollars. The house has been established fifty years, conducted all this time by father and son.

Lady Morgan says in one of her works, that "one of the things worth a visit to Paris is the exquisite confectionery, so light and so perfumed that it resembles congealed odors, or a crystallization of the essences of sweet flowers."

Iowa has just completed her State census, showing a population of 633,549. She had 192,219 in 1850, and 43,111 in 1840. She has thus more than trebled her population in the last nine years, and increased it about fifteen fold in nineteen years.

The Harriaburg (Pa.) Telegraph says a lady had the habit of picking her teeth with pins. A trifling humor was the consequence, which terminated in a cancer. The brass and quicksilver used in making these pins will account for the circumstance.

A young fellow named Taylor, wishing to desert his wife, came up the river to Albany, and then sent a despatch to her signing it with the name of another person, that he had fallen off a sloop and was drowned. Mrs. Taylor at once started for Albany, and on arriving there she discovered the deception.

A mammoth steer, called the Great Eastern, raised in Vermont, weighs 4000 lbs.

Public executions have been abolished by a recent act of the Georgia Legislature.

A young lady fond of dancing, traverses in the course of a season about four hundred miles.

Washington Territory is 600 miles long, and 209 broad, and contains 123,022 square miles.

A society of Free Lovers from California have bought 50,000 acres of land in San Salvador.

An old man in Indiana recently cowhided his daughter, 19 years old, for wearing hoops.

A man was convicted in Worcester county, the other day, of being a common railer and brawler.

The German language is now taught in the public schools of the city of Cincinnati.

The first British steam packet that crossed the Atlantic was the Sirius, in 1838.

Boiling to death was made a capital punishment in the time of the Tudor Henry the Eighth, of England.

A good telegraph operator, working ten hours per day, on paying messages, brings a receipt of about \$75 to the treasury of the company employing him.

It is stated that the profits of the play called "Our American Cousin," during a run of one hundred and sixty nights in New York, amounted to more than forty thousand dollars.

The New Haven custom-house and post-office will be completed next spring. It will cost, including the site, \$190,000, and is built of iron, brick, and Portland stone.

There is said to be about 60,000 Chinese in California. They have a splendid temple in San Francisco, and have lately imported a huge ugly idol at an immense cost.

Gold is 19 1-3 times heavier than water, and melts at a heat of 2016° fah. It may be hammered so thin as to require two hundred thousand leaves to make an inch in thickness.

A lady who had a silk gown spoilt in being re colored, brought an action against the establishment, and summoned several of the workmen to give their dying testimony.

The largest ingot of gold yet received from California was recently shipped to Europe. It is 11 7-8 inches long, 5 wide, and 4 1-4 thick. Its value is \$42,581.

A river, having a slope greater than ten inches to the mile, has its current so accelerated as to destroy its banks. In such cases the water spreads over a large surface, and the current is a constant succession of rapids and pools.

Governor Seward was presented in Alexandria with three superb Arabian horses, which will be shipped to this country. Two of them will be presented to the New York State Agricultural Society.

There is a firm in Troy, who, instead of signing the names of the firm, affix a couple of ambrotypes a little larger than postage stamps, one containing a life-like delineation of the features of the senior and the other that of the junior member of the firm. Homely men will, of course, set their faces against any such arrangement.

Merry-Making.

Why is dancing like milk? Because it strengthens the calves.

Appropos of earthquakes—one touch of Nature makes the whole world kick.

Down-East lyceum—question for discussion—"Can a big man ache harder than a little one?"

"My inkstand is stationery," as the school-master said when he found it nailed to the desk.

What would our day be without its morning and evening's twilight? A fierce and burning eye without a lid.

If an egg could speak, and you were to ask it whence it came, what sweetmeat would it name in reply? *Mame-laid.*

Why should potatoes grow better than other vegetables? Because they have eyes to see what they are doing.

A lawyer on his passage from Europe observed a shark, and asked a sailor what it was, who replied, "Here we call 'em sea lawyers."

Brown being asked what was the first thing necessary towards winning the love of a woman, answered, "An opportunity."

We have a lovely young female correspondent who has great skill in shooting pistols and fowling pieces, and still greater in drawing beaux.

Of all "suits that are down for hearing," we should say that the love suit with a rich widow that was deaf of both ears, was about as difficult as any to win.

A shrewd observer once said that, in walking the streets of a slippery morning, one might see where the good-natured people lived, by the ashes thrown on the ice before the doors.

Longfellow asks "what a single rose on a lady's forehead indicates." To which the Louisville Journal replies that it "probably means that, if she is kissed, it must be under the rose."

"Why," asked a little girl, "is Fred like a man that has fallen off a tree and is determined to go up again?" "Because he is going to try another climb!" Not bad for an eight-year old.

A wag being told by an acquaintance that Miss Brown (who is rather a broad featured young lady) had a benign countenance, replied, "Perhaps you mean seven-by nine."

The Bishop of Reiz thanked the Bishop of Lisieux for having consecrated him. "It is for me," said the latter, "to thank you. I was the ugliest bishop in France until you were elected."

"Have you ever seen a mermaid, captain?" asked a lady on board the Margate boat. "I've seen a good many *fish-women*, madam, if that's what you mean," was the reply.

A theoretically benevolent man, on being asked by a friend to lend him a dollar, answered briskly, "With pleasure;" but suddenly added, "Dear me, how unfortunate! I've only one lending dollar—and that is out."

The most amusing man in the world is a Frenchman in a passion. "By gar, you call my wife a woman two three several times once more an' I will call you the vatch house, and blow out your brains like a candle."

The New York Saturday Press says the greatest virtue in a sea captain is wreck less-ness.

An Irish paper advertises: "Wanted an able-bodied man as a washerwoman."

Why is a certain hat called a wide-awake? Because it is worn without a nap.

The man who attempted to look into the future had the door slammed in his face.

Why is a butcher like a language master? Because he is a *retailer of tongues.*

Why would a printer make a good lawyer? Because he would always be sure to understand the "case."

The most economical time to buy cider, is when it is not very clear—for then it will settle for itself.

"It's all around my hat," as the hypocrite said when he put on mourning for his departed wife.

"I say," cries Dick, "old fellar, wot's the meaning of armistice?" Says Jim, "Why, 'coves a fightin', for a while unclinchin' fists."

Some men have the chameleon's power,—to turn one eye towards heaven, while the other looks in a contrary direction.

A business man of our acquaintance is so scrupulously exact in all his doings, that whenever he pays a visit, he always will insist upon taking a receipt.

Little Tommy T—— is five years old. He was in a musing mood the other day, and his mother asked him what he was thinking about. "O," said he, "I was thinking of *old times!*"

"Weigh your words," said a man to a fellow who was blustering away in a towering passion at another. "They wont weigh much if he does," said the antagonist, coolly.

A bachelor editor of our acquaintance, who has a very pretty sister, recently wrote to another bachelor editor equally fortunate, "please exchange." We hope that it has happened or will.

Does any one remember what Mirabeau wrote to the young lady who had fallen in love with his genius and wished to know how he looked? He said, sententiously: "Fancy his Satanic majesty, who has had the small pox!"

A person said in our hearing, the other day, that editors for the most part were a thin, pale-faced set. A lad standing near, made this witty observation to his chum: "There, Bob! I told you I had often read about the editorial *corpses.*"

"Don't you think," said a vain fellow, "that I am fit to be King of Great Britain, or Emperor of the French?" "No, but you might make a Doge of Venice, if the title were only curtailed by a letter."

IT SHOULD BE KNOWN!

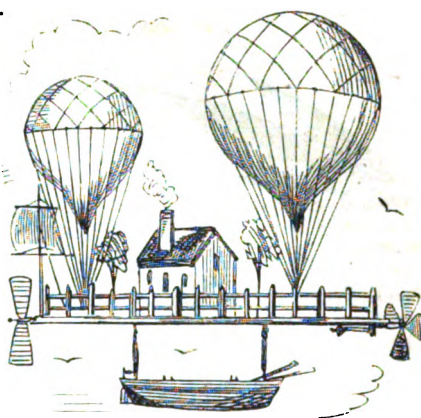
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MR. AIRY'S BALLOON EXPERIENCE.



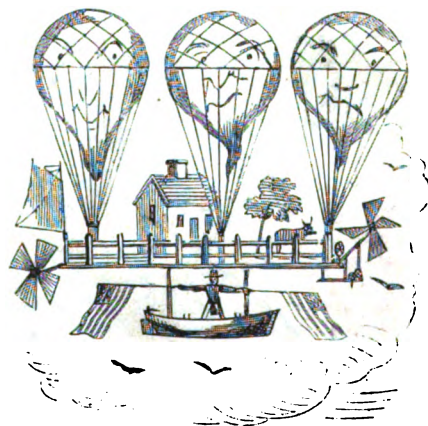
After a great amount of study, Mr. Airy produces a plan for a balloon, with which he is highly pleased.



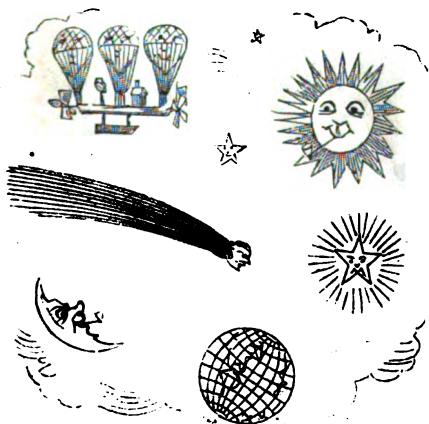
The appearance which Mr. Airy expects his balloon to have during an ascension.



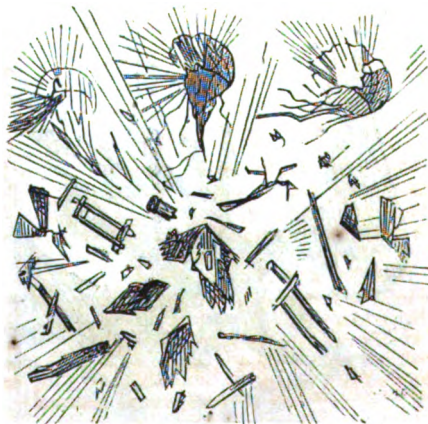
Actual appearance of the balloon on the trial trip.



Having made several essential improvements and additions, comprising all the comforts of a home, Mr. Airy makes a highly successful ascension.



Appearance of the earth, sun, etc., at the height of three hundred miles.



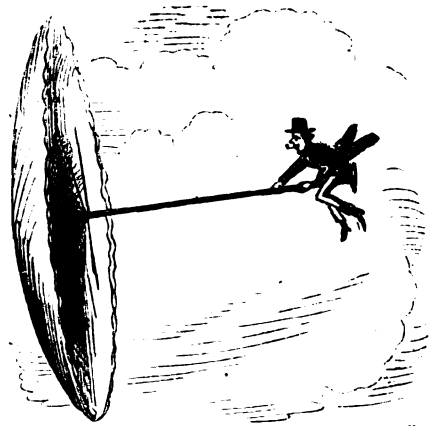
Having attained an altitude of 350 miles, Mr. Airy prepares to descend, when his balloon accidentally explodes

BALLOU'S DOLLAR MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

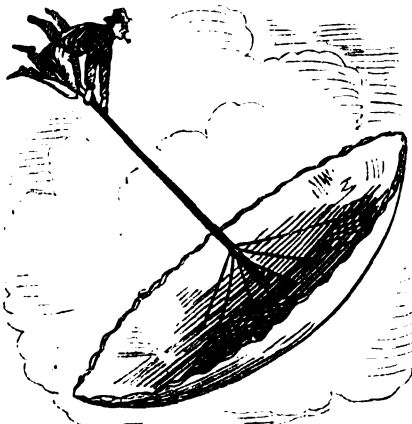
THE CHEAPEST MAGAZINE IN THE WORLD.



But being prepared with a parachute, he quickly proceeds with his descent.



Gets along nicely for the first fifty miles, when he strikes a current which renders his position less comfortable.



Strikes another current—Mr. Airy's position evidently unpleasant.



Being unable to retain his hold, he falls off, at a distance of seventy-five miles from the earth.



Is saved from instant death, by falling upon an American eagle, which is flying beneath him. He clings to the bird, and



Is carried safely to the bosom of his family, after an absence of 2 years 3 months and 4 1/2 days

The Florist.

No, jewel-keeper of the hoary North!

Whence hast thou all thy treasures? Why, the mines
Of rich Golconda, since the world was young,
Would fail to furnish such a glorious show!

Yes, the wintry king,
So long decried, hath revenue more rich
Than sparkling diamonds.—*Mrs. Esouanay.*

Parlor Plants.

Many persons inquire of us, "What can we grow in a window?" We answer thus—a great deal and to much advantage; temperature from 40° to 60°; the east window is preferable to the south or west. There are many whose position or circumstances do not permit them to have a greenhouse, but all have a window—and it is surprising to see how much can be done by aid of a few lights. A copious supply of water, frequent sponging and syringing of the foliage, and judicious airing, will result in success. Nearly all plants will grow in earth from the woods, or very rich sandy soil; they will even grow in sand, if watered frequently with manure water. The following plants are adapted for windows, and will give a succession of bloom all winter:—*amelia*, *begonia*, *cacti*, *calla*, *capheas*, *canthia*, *daphne*, *dracina ferra*, *fuschia* (kept very moist), *geranium*, *hoya*, *jessamine*, *justicia*, *metrosideros*, *myrica*, *oxalis* (with sun), *olea*, *oleander*, *passiflora*, *primula*. These, with Bengal and tea roses, will make an ample variety for three or four windows, and afford bloom nearly the whole season.

Bengals.

Of these well known daily or monthly roses we need scarcely speak in the way of advice. They are the favorites of the poor and rich, being within the capacity of any housekeeper who has a south side window, and the glowing ornaments of the extensive conservatory. In the pleasure-garden they add life and tone to the variety of less marked occupants of the flower-beds and borders. Similar soil to that recommended for the Bourbons will suit them, and they require no special pruning but to trim into shape. Let every one have at least a couple of these precious flowers in pots; they will repay all the time and care lavished upon them.

Pereskia.

The Barbadoes, or West India gooseberry. This plant bears very little resemblance to the other kinds of *Cacti*, as it has thin leaves and round stem, like any other ligneous plant. The commonest kind has white flowers, but the flowers of the *Pereskia Eleo* are of a beautiful pink. The fruit resembles the gooseberry, and is good eating. The *pereskias* are quite hardy, growing in the same temperature, and requiring the same treatment as the *opuntias* or common Indian fig.

Leonitus.

Lion's ear. Shrubby plants from the Cape of Good Hope, with scarlet or orange flowers, which are produced in whorls round the joints of the stem. The flowers are produced in the autumn, and the plants require a rich, light soil. They are rather tender, and require early and strong protection during the winter. They are very showy, and will repay the care they require.

Yellow Vetchling.

A British climbing vetch with yellow flowers, only found in sandy soil. It is not very beautiful, and scarcely worth the cultivation, save because of its growing in a poor, sandy spot, where almost anything else would die.

Russian Hot-House.

Edward Taylor thus describes the magnificent greenhouse which the ems maintain for the production and growth of tropical and other exotic plants amidst the snows of Russia:—"The Botanical Garden, in which I spent an afternoon, contains one of the finest collections of tropical plants in Europe. Here, in latitude 60°, you may walk through an avenue of palm trees six feet high, under tree-ferns, bananas, by ponds of lotus and Indian lily, and banks of splendid orchids, breathing an air heavy with the richest and warmest odors. The extent of these giant hot-houses cannot be less than a mile and a half. The short summer, and long, dark winter, of the North requires a peculiar course of treatment for these children of the sun. During the three warm months they are forced as much as possible, so that the growth of six months is obtained in that time, and the productive qualities of the plant are kept up to their normal standard. After that result is obtained, it thrives as steadily as in a more favored climate. The palms, in particular, are noble specimens. One of them (a phoenix, I believe,) is now in blossom, which is an unheard-of event in such a latitude."

Treatment of House Plants.

The wants of plants cultivated in the winter, are the same as in summer; these are, heat, moisture, sun and air. Of the first they generally have too much; of the latter rarely enough. They are most frequently kept in a room heated up to 70 degrees, which is much too hot. The great majority of plants will do better until they begin to bloom, with a heat not exceeding 45 or 50 degrees. If you have a room with windows facing south or east, in which the temperature can be kept generally at 50 and never fall below 40 degrees, your plants can probably be kept in good health and condition, as far as heat is concerned. With regard to moisture, it is more difficult to meet the wants of plants. You may drench the roots of plants, but that is not all they want. They desire a moist atmosphere, which it is impossible to give them in a room heated either with a stove or by pipes from a hot-air furnace. Your plants need not only water at the roots, but frequent waterings of the foliage, which not only refreshes them, but removes the dust from the leaves, which is very injurious to plants.

Hanging-Vases for Plants and Flowers.

A beautiful ornament for a room may be made by a hanging-vase of terra cotta, porcelain, or similar material, suspended by a colored cord. The plants most suitable for this kind of growth are *maurandia*, the foliage of which is delicate and ornamental, and the flowers of which, though small, are very beautiful; the *lobelia gracilis*, with its profusion of tiny cobalt blue flowers; the *memphilla* and common money-wort. All of these mentioned vines are very delicate, sending up some slender arms to cling round the cords, while other branches hang lightly and gracefully downward.

Epilobium.

The French willow-herb. A tall, showy perennial, with stoloniferous roots, only suited to shrubbery. It requires no care in its culture—the only difficulty being to prevent its overpowering everything else, when once it is planted in any situation not exceedingly dry. There are several wild species of *epilobium* common in Great Britain, one of which is called by the odd name of codlins-and-cream.

Geraniums, Fuchsias, etc., during Winter.

They cannot have too much light and fresh air at any season of the year, for the exterior air always contains a due proportion of moisture, whilst the air of a room is unavoidably drier than is beneficial to the plants. The application of water to the soil requires far more attention than it usually receives—in other words, never water them while the soil in their pots is moist; and, when you do have occasion to perform this operation, do it effectually, with water that has been allowed to stand in the kitchen for some hours before it is applied to the plants, so that it is as warm or warmer than the soil to which it is to be added. Under ordinary circumstances it should be administered every fourth day; but, if the weather be very dry and hot, every other day.

Suspended Vases.

The best flower plants for this purpose are pelargoniums, especially the best scarlets; and seedling petunias of different kinds should be raised, as their habit of growth, as well as their varied and attractive colors, renders them peculiarly adapted for a suspended position. The effects of the richer colors may be greatly aided by tufts of the graceful grasslike *Isoplexis gracilis*, and by some long trailing plants of *Tropaeolum canariensis*, which may be artificially fastened from one vase to another. Among the most desirable plants of pendulous growth, suited to baskets or vases suspended in this manner, are, first and foremost, all the verbenas, which are naturally of trailing habit, and of every variety of gay color, from snow-white to rose, violet, crimson and dampling scarlet.

Thoughts on Flowers.

Campbell says that the word "daisy" is a thousand times pronounced without adverting to the beauty of its etymology—the eye of day. A beautiful flower is the type of mortality; it flourishes for a few days, then withers, dies, and is seen no more. Christ says, "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grew; they toil not, neither do they spin; and yet I say unto you that even Solomon, in all his glory, was not arrayed like one of these." In the Old Testament, the lily is God's chosen flower.

Dahlia Culture.

Florists hasten the vegetation of the dahlia plants by ploughing them in a mild hotbed, if such is at hand, or even laying them in the hothouse, covering them up in sawdust, dry sand, charcoal dust, or other similar material. In this manner they are propagated very extensively, by obtaining cuttings when the shoots thus hastened have become one or two inches long.

The Compass Flower.

A little plant is found upon the prairies of Texas called the "compass flower," which, under all changes of weather, rain, frost or sunshine, invariably turns its leaves and flowers towards the North, thus affording an unerring guide to the traveller who, unaided by the needle, seeks to explore those vast plains alone.

Roseos.

Handsome stove plants, somewhat resembling the Indian shot. They should be grown in loam, peat and sand, and they are increased by dividing the roots.

Watsonia.

Railstone-nosed plants, very nearly allied to gladiolus, and which require exactly the same culture.

Tea-Roses.

The tea-rose is a general favorite, especially for pot-culture; their delightful fragrance secures them this consideration, while their partially expanded buds are deservedly attractive. We have no details to offer under the head of culture, only to repeat that they require a rich, loamy soil, prepared by selecting friable loam from an unbroken pasture, and allowed to remain in a heap for some time till it becomes friable; to this add equal parts of clear sand and leaf-mould with a little charcoal, if convenient, which latter serves to keep the soil porous—a very important consideration, the tea-rose being very susceptible of injury from the stagnation of water about its roots. For blooming in the greenhouse, re-pot a few select plants in October, into six-inch pots. Keep them shaded for a few days after watering them thoroughly, and then select a situation where they will have air and light when it can be admitted; see that the superfluous water doesn't remain round the pots, and supply it in a judicious manner, only when necessary. By pruning out very weak shoots, and shortening others, the form of the plant may be gradually corrected and preserved. For out-door culture nothing special is requisite but a good, rich, light border.

Camelias.

Persons who have purchased camelias from greenhouses need to be cautioned about bringing them into a warm room. They will dwindle, drop their leaves, fall to blossom, and perhaps die. They need the coolest, lightest place they can have, and will bear considerable frost if well syringed with cold water in the morning. Keep them in a cool, light place, and syringe or sprinkle them well and often. They will well repay the care. Greenhouse plants, in general, brought into parlors and living rooms will not thrive unless the air is supplied with moisture, and that abundantly, by water on the stove or in the furnace chamber, and they be well and frequently syringed or sprinkled.

Clintonia Pulchella.

Many lovers of this charming little flower complain that it is difficult to get the seeds to germinate. The following treatment, if the seeds are good, will be found effectual: Sow in shallow pans upon fine rich soil, and cover lightly with fine sifted sand; after about six days water them with a fine syringe till the water rises to the surface, which should be kept up to the mark, and the plants will be found to have made good progress. When about half an inch high, they can be taken out in small bunches, and transplanted into the flower-borders, beds, or pots, in either of which it will not fail to prove itself one of the most beautiful annuals in cultivation.

Heaths.

The kinds grown in greenhouses are all natives of the Cape of Good Hope, and they are very numerous. Heaths require good drainage and frequent waterings; and though water should never be allowed to stand in the saucers, the roots also should never be suffered to become dry, as when once withered, they can never be recovered. Heaths also require abundance of fresh air, and no plants are more injured by being kept in rooms. They should not be shifted oftener than once in three or four years.

Earth Pea.

An annual pea, which forms part of the flowers and pots under ground; and which, though not very beautiful, is often cultivated for its singularity. It is a hardy annual, and should be sown in April or May.

Curious Matters.

Curious Case.

A young man was lately tried before the Superior Court at Salem, for stealing a horse and buggy from a stable-keeper in Lynn. He confessed the crime, said he sold the team and took the money for it, but nevertheless he was acquitted by the jury! It appeared upon evidence, and the statement of his own counsel, that the alleged thief was such an outrageous liar, that there was no reliance to be placed upon his confession, even though it was against his own interest to make it. The man who was said to have bought the team was not forthcoming, and there being no corroborative evidence that the fellow told the truth, the judge ruled that the jury shouldn't believe him, though he confessed everything that was charged in the indictment; and he was accordingly discharged. This is the first instance that has come under our observation of a man escaping punishment, or reaping any similar advantage, solely from the fact that he was a notorious liar.

Singular.

Workmen engaged in excavating a cistern in Marietta, Ohio, after passing down through six feet of sandy loam, and through three feet of conglomerate rock, so hard as to require blasting, found under the rock a cavity about a foot in depth, and in the earth below this cavity a human skeleton and the bones of animals. The bones were very old and crumbling. A part of the upper jaw of the skeleton contained the teeth, which were very much worn, belonging evidently to a person well advanced in years. The bones had probably been conveyed there by water, which at some time may have flowed through the cavity beneath the rock. The opening is about 600 feet from the present bank of the Muskingum River, and about 15 or 20 feet below the level of the plain.

Remarkable Ignorance.

The Doual Journals relate an extraordinary case of ignorance in a village near that town. A physician called a few days ago to prescribe for the sick child of a peasant woman, and ordered a warm bath. "What is a bath?" said she. "Heat some water in your pot on the fire, and put the child into it!" A few minutes later a neighbor entered, and found that the woman had put the child into the pot with the water, and had placed the little creature on the fire, which she was diligently stirring up! Of course the neighbor rescued the child from the horrible fate with which it was threatened.

Voluntary Starvation.

A singular instance of voluntary starvation occurred recently near Oskaloosa, Iowa. A lady laboring under a mental aberration for some time, finally about two months since came to the determination to starve herself to death. She refused every kind of nourishment, even water, and at last died, after living without liquids or solids of any kind for sixty-eight days. It is proved by ample authority that during that time, she never took two ounces of any nourishment whatever.

Spontaneous Generation.

The problem of "spontaneous generation," or life without germ," has assumed a new phase. The Paris Académie des Sciences, which up to a recent period scouted the very idea, has now proposed a prize of 2500 francs for the best essay of an experimental character, calculated to elucidate this very important inquiry.

A remarkable Staff.

The staff which was used by his lordship Bishop de Charbonnel at the consecration of the coadjutor bishop of Toronto, was composed of an old staff of the late lamented Bishop Macdonnell, and the crook that was used by the abbot of St. Fillan to bless the Scottish army at the battle of Bannockburn. It is of solid silver, with some relic enclosed behind a white stone, and the workmanship conclusively proves its antiquity. It is probable that such an interesting staff was never held on a similar occasion by any consecrator outside of the city of Rome. It was while kneeling before the abbot, holding this blessed staff in his hand, that the English monarch remarked that the Scots were suing for mercy. He found his mistake, however.

Romantic.

A remarkable romance in real life has lately occurred in Louisa county, Iowa. A man named Crall has been reunited to his wife and family after a separation of forty-seven years. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, and his family then resided near Philadelphia. His wife heard that he was killed, and afterwards went West with some friends. After his discharge, he returned, and was told that his wife and children had moved away, and afterwards died. He has since been living in Jefferson county, New York, and only came to a knowledge of his wife's existence by her attempt to secure a land warrant on his account.

How to pronounce "Ough."

The ending syllable "ough," which is such a terror to foreigners, is shown up in its several pronunciations in the following lines:

"Wife, make me some dumplings of dough,
They're better than meat for my cough;
Pray, let them be boiled till hot through,
But not till they're heavy or tough.
Now, I must be off to my plough,
And the boys (when they've had enough)
Must keep the flies off with a bough,
While the old mare drinks at the trough."

The Scotch Thistle.

When the Danes from England invaded Scotland, and were about to make a night attack upon the Scottish forces, marching barefooted to prevent their tramp from being heard, one of them trod upon a large prickly thistle, which caused him to utter a sharp cry of pain. The Scots were thus apprized of their danger, and immediately ran to their arms, and defeated the Danes with great slaughter. The thistle was thenceforward adopted as the national insignia of Scotland.

A Chinese Custom.

In China the barbers, instead of performing their duties in shops, go about ringing bells to get customers. They carry with them a stool, towel, and a pot of fire. When called by any person they run to him, plant their stool in a convenient place, and go through the usual operations of the toilet, for which they charge a farthing.

Novel Invention.

M. Camille Vert, a Parisian, has invented a flying machine in the shape of a fish, which, while in the air, he can guide in any direction. The emperor was present at the trial trip, which took place under the high ceiling of the Industrial Palace, and has authorized a public exhibition of the machine.

A curious Calculation.

What a curious creature a man would be, says some newspaper writer, were his voice in proportion to his weight, as that of a locust, which can be heard the distance of one-sixteenth of a mile. The golden wren is said to weigh but half an ounce, so that a middling-sized man would weigh down not short of 4000 of them; and it must be strange if a golden wren would not outweigh four of our locusts. Supposing, therefore, a common man weighed as much as 16,000 locusts, and that the note of a locust can be heard the sixteenth of a mile, a man of common dimensions, pretty sound in wind and limbs, ought to be able to make himself heard the distance of one thousand miles.

Queer Custom.

Among the many strange customs of the past, still preserved in England, is one which requires the sheriff of the city of London, or one of the under sheriffs, on any day between the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel and the Morrow of St. Martin, to perform before the Queen's Remembrancer the ceremony of chopping fagots with a bill-hook and adze, as suit and service for a piece of land called the Moor, in Shropshire; and the counting of six horse-shoes and sixty-one nails, as suit and service for a piece of land called the Forge, in the parish of St. Clement Danes. The service was performed last year on the 31st of October.

Singular Death.

About six years ago a young man in Philadelphia, attempting to catch a rat, was bitten in the arm. The wound was painful immediately after the occurrence, and the arm became much swollen. Relief was obtained, and the injured limb seemed to be healed. At intervals, however, it would become inflamed, and a few weeks since the diseased part became worse, and the symptoms assumed a dangerous form. The sufferer lingered until recently, when he expired.

Curious Practice.

Barrow, in his "Visit to Iceland," mentions a rather curious but effectual plan in practice among the Icelanders for tying their horses, which is believed to be peculiar to the island. They tie the head of one horse to the tail of another, and the head of this one to the tail of the former. Under these circumstances, if the animals are disposed to move, it will only be possible in a circle, and even then there must be an agreement to turn their heads the same way.

Remarkable Fact.

Orange or lemon juice left upon a knife, or other piece of iron, will, in a few days, produce a stain so nearly resembling that caused by blood, as to deceive the most careful observer; and not many years ago, in Paris, a man was nearly convicted of murder, owing to a knife being found in his possession, stained with what was pronounced by several witnesses to be blood, but was afterwards discovered to be lime juice.

A revengeful Puss.

A *Tralee* paper states that a cat, having been chastised by its owner for some misdemeanor, disappeared. Subsequently, puss stood in her master's path as he was going somewhere from home, and seized his hand, to which she held so firmly that her jaws had to be cut in order to release the hand from her grasp. The wound proved so virulent as to cause death.

A hard-hearted Schoolmaster.

A German magazine recently announced the death of a schoolmaster in Suabia, who for fifty-one years has superintended a large institution, with old-fashioned severity. From an average, inferred by means of recorded observations, one of the ushers had calculated that, in the course of his exertions, he had given 911,500 canings, 121,000 floggings, 209,000 custodes, 136,000 tips with the ruler, 10,200 boxes on the ear, and 22,700 tasks by heart. It was further calculated that he had made 700 boys stand on peas, 6000 kneel on the sharp edge of wood, 5000 wear the fool's cap, and 1700 hold the rod. How vast (exclaims the journalist) the quantity of human misery inflicted by a single perverse teacher!

A mathematical Genius.

The *St. Louis Bulletin* gives an account of a remarkable mathematical genius now in that city. He is twenty-six years of age and has attended school but two months in his life. He is a dull-looking young man, and cannot be taught anything, yet he can answer questions in arithmetic, geometry, and trigonometry, which would puzzle the brains of scholars to work out. What he knows seems to be of intuition.

An odd Fashion.

A Paris letter-writer states that as an addition to the ball-room toilette, the distinguished perfumer and fabricant of gloves, Faguer, stitches the white kid gloves with blue, pink or violet silk, according to the color of the robe with which the gloves are to be worn. The glove, fastened with two buttons on the back of the wrist, is also a novelty in favor with the *haut-ton*.

Singular Death.

A London female pickpocket stole five sovereigns from a lady in an omnibus. On being arrested, she managed to swallow two, the remainder being found on her person. Two days after she died in the hospital of the prison, and a *post-mortem* examination revealed the two pieces of money in her stomach, which were recovered and returned to the owner.

New Discovery.

It is reported that a large bay, thirty miles wide by one hundred long, has been found on the western coast of Lower California, between latitude 26 degrees 40 minutes, and 28 degrees 4 minutes, the entrance being narrow and near 27 degrees. This bay has been a favorite resort of whales, and was discovered by a whaler which entered the bay and had a good time of it.

Odd Fatality.

The *Salut Public* of Lyons, says: "A death caused by a very singular accident, occurred in the quarter of St. Just. Several children were making a great noise, in the passage of a house, when two men hurried out in great haste, from opposite directions, to ascertain the cause, and ran against each other with such violence that one of them fell dead on the spot."

Remarkable Incident.

A marriage was lately celebrated at Wallingford, Connecticut, at the residence of the bridegroom's father, in presence of a great-great-grandmother, great-grandfather, and great-grandmother, grandfather and grandmother, father, mother, and children, in all forty-one of one family.

The Housewife.

To Wash Woolens.

Use soft water, and in order to make a lather, put half a pound of soap into a gallon of water (or as much more in proportion as is necessary), and boil it until the soap is dissolved; wash through two waters (unless one is found sufficient), as warm as can be borne, adding, as you go on, what quantity of the soap-water is needed; wring them out each time, then throw them into a rinsing-tub, and fill to covering with boiling water. Let them remain until cool enough to admit of handling, then proceed to rinse, and well wring them. Observe the rinsing water must be *hard water*. This method will do for any kinds of woolens; but for large and strong articles, such as blankets, carpets, etc., perhaps wringing would be better omitted, and in all cases, care should be taken to spread out the articles straight and smooth.

Apple Island.

Stew apple enough to make a quart, strain it through a sieve, sweeten it with fine white sugar, and flavor it with lemon or rose. Beat the whites of six eggs to a hard froth, and stir into the apple slowly, but do not do this, till just before it is to be served. The apple should be stewed with as little water as possible. Put it into a glass dish. Serve a nice, boiled custard made of the yolks of the eggs to eat with it.

Sauce for Rump-steak.

Take equal parts of ale, red wine and catsup, a piece of butter and a little pepper, with a teaspoonful of garlic vinegar; stir these over a hot fire in a small sauce-pan, and pour it very hot upon the steak. It will form a pleasant addition to the gravy of any roast meat, and can be made in a few minutes.

Cough Syrup.

One ounce of elecampane, one ounce of comfrey, one ounce of horehound, and one ounce of wild cherry bark. Put these in one quart of water, and boil down to one pint. Add three cups of honey, one cup of sugar, and one table-spoonful of sweet oil. Take one table-spoonful every two hours.

Rice Pudding.

One pint of cooked rice, one pint of milk, one teaspoonful of salt, and the yolk of four eggs. Bake till done; then add the whites of four eggs beaten to a froth, with four table-spoonfuls of sugar. Bake again five minutes. Serve with liquid sauce.

Mint Sauce for Roast Lamb.

Pick the leaves off the stalks; wash and dry them carefully; chop them with a sharp knife very quickly, to preserve their green color; put it into a boat; add sufficient vinegar to make it liquid, and powdered sugar to take off the acidity of the vinegar.

Toast without Butter.

Put in a pan a pint of milk; when it boils, have two table-spoonfuls of flour dissolved in a little cold milk, and pour in, and salt, let it scald, but not boil; and pour it over the bread.

Lemon Drop Cake.

One pound of flour, half a pound of butter, half a pound of loaf sugar, the yolks of three eggs, the white of one egg, and the grated rind of one lemon. Baked in portions of the size of a large walnut.

Pickle for Red Cabbage.

Take a fine large closely-grown cabbage, strip the outside leaves off, cut it across in rather thin pieces, and lay them on a dish, strewing salt usually all over them. Cover with a cloth, and let them remain so for twenty hours. Then drain the cabbage, and put it in a jar with allspice, whole pepper, and a little ginger sliced. Pour cold white wine vinegar over it, and the closely from the atmosphere.

Orange Marmalade.

One pound of oranges, half a pound of lemons, three quarts of water. Boil slowly for two hours; cut all, taking out the seeds. To each pound of fruit take two pounds of loaf sugar and one pint of the water in which the fruit was boiled. While cutting the fruit into thin slices, pour the water upon the sugar, and then boil all together for half an hour.

Indian Pudding.

Take one pint of milk, and one-quarter of a pound of Indian meal, and boil it smooth; then add one-quarter and half a quarter of a pound of butter, and half a pound of sugar. When cool, beat in the yolks of six eggs; beat the whites of the eggs to a froth, and add them last. Put in spice to your liking. Bake the mixture on shallow plates.

Blacking for Stoves.

A good blacking for stoves may be made with half a pound of black lead finely powdered, mixed with the whites of three eggs, to make it stick; then dilute it with some beer till it becomes as thin as shoe blacking; after stirring, set it over the fire to simmer for twenty minutes. When cold, it is fit for use.

Bride, or Pound Cake.

One pound of flour, three-quarters of a pound of butter, three-quarters of a pound of lump sugar, one pound and a half of currants, five eggs, a quarter of a pound of lemon-peel, two ounces of sweet almonds, a teaspoonful of yeast, and a glass of brandy.

To make Ginger Muffins.

One dozen of eggs, two pounds of flour, two and a half pounds of butter, one pint of molasses, one teaspoonful of soda, a handful or two of brown sugar, and a table-spoonful of ginger; beat all well together, and bake them.

Scarlet on Woolen.

For two pounds of goods take two ounces of cochineal and two ounces of cream of tartar. Boil the dye fifteen minutes, then dip in the goods, and air until the color suits. Color in brass or copper.

A simple Sponge Cake.

Take twelve eggs, two cups of powdered loaf-sugar, the grated rind of a lemon, and half its juice; beat to a stiff froth; then add two cups of sifted flour, and bake in a quick oven twenty minutes.

Pound Cake.

One pound of flour, one pound of sugar, one pound of butter, and eight eggs; beat it well, and bake three-quarters of an hour.

To prevent Mould in Books.

A few drops of oil of lavender will save a library from mould. Sprinkle it about

Sores and Burns.

Plunge the part in cold water as soon as possible, and keep it there until you can get some dry flour in a darning-box, pepper-box, or a bag made of muslin or open cloth, with which you can coat the burn evenly with flour as soon as it is taken from the water. Keep shaking on the flour as long as it will stick, and lightly wrap it up to keep it there, and do nothing else. Eat nothing, drink nothing but water until free from pain, and then live upon very light diet until the sore is healed.

Muffins.

Flour, one quart; warm milk and water, one pint and a half; yeast, a quarter of a pint; salt, two ounces; mix for fifteen minutes. Then further add flour, a quarter of a peck; make a dough, let it rise one hour, roll it up, pull it into pieces, make them into balls, put them in a warm place, and when the whole dough is made into balls, shape them into muffins, and bake them on tins. Turn them when half done, dip them in warm milk, and bake to a pale brown.

Smelts, potted.

Put them with a skewer under the gills, leave in the roe, dry them well with a cloth, season them well with salt, mace and pepper, and lay them in a pot, with half a pound of melted butter over them; tie them down, and bake them in a slow oven three-quarters of an hour. When almost cold take them out of the liquor, put them into oval pots, cover them with clarified butter, and keep them for use.

Baked Plum Pudding.

Take one loaf of baker's bread, broken up (except the crust), and pour over it three pints of warm milk, and let it stand for an hour. While warm put in a piece of butter as large as an egg, half a pound of raisins, six eggs, and half a pound of currants, adding citron, nutmeg, brandy, and anything else you please. Bake it three hours, and eat it with wine sauce.

To soften old Putty.

In removing old broken panes from a window, it is generally very difficult to get off the hard, dry putty that sticks round the glass and its frame. Dip a small brush in a little nitric or muriatic acid (to be obtained at the druggists), and go over the putty with it. Let it rest a while, and it will soon become so soft that you can remove it with ease.

Potato Pudding.

Boil one quart of potatoes quite soft, and then rub them smooth through a hair sieve. Have ready half a pound of melted butter and six eggs, beat light; mix the butter with half a pound of sugar; stir in the eggs, adding half a pound of currants; put the mixture into a thick cloth and boil it half an hour. To be eaten with wine sauce.

Salmon, rolled.

Take a side of salmon, remove the bone, clean it nicely, and throw over the inside pepper, salt, nutmeg and sauce, with a few chopped oysters, parsley and crumbs of bread. Roll it up tight, put it into a deep pot, and bake it in a quick oven. Make a common fish sauce and pour over it.

Liniment for Sprains, etc.

One pint of spirits of alcohol, one drachm of camphor, two drachms of opium, and two drachms of spirits of turpentine.

Oyster Patties or Pies.

As you open the oysters separate them from the liquor, which strain; parboil them after taking off the beards; parboil French bread, cut them in slices, lay them and the oysters in layers, season lightly with salt, pepper and mace; then put half a teacupful of liquor and the same of gravy; bake in a slow oven. Before serving put a teacupful of cream, a little more oyster liquor, and a cupful of white gravy, all warm, but not boiled. If for patties, the oysters should be cut in small dice, gently stewed and seasoned as above, and put in the paste when ready for the table.

Pink Dye for Silk.

Safflower previously washed in water until it ceases to give out any color, and dried, eight ounces; subcarbonate of soda, two ounces; water, two gallons. Infuse, strain, add French chalk four pounds, scraped fine with Dutch rushes, and precipitate the color upon it with nitric or tartaric acid.—*Light blue Dye for Silk*.—Make a ferment of six parts of bian, six parts of indigo, six of potash, and one of madder. To dye silk of a dark blue, it must previously receive what is called a ground color—a red dye stuff, called cochal, is used for this purpose.

Penrith Pudding.

Cover the bottom of a dish with a layer of grated bread; then add a layer of apples sliced fine; sprinkle plentifully over it some sugar, with some spices, cinnamon and nutmeg, and small lumps of butter; then add a layer of grated bread; another of apples, spices, sugar, etc., and so on until the dish is full. Bake it, and serve it with sauce, or butter and sugar mixed together.

Smelts, fried.

Put them with a skewer under the gills, leave in the roe, dry them with a cloth; beat an egg and rub it over the fish with a feather; strew bread crumbs over them, and fry them in some boiling hot lard. Shake the fish occasionally, and fry them a nice brown.

Lemon Pudding.

Beat together three-quarters of a pound of sugar, one half a pound of butter, five eggs (beaten to a froth), two large spoonfuls of grated bread, the juice of one large lemon, and half the rind grated. Bake in plates, with paste below.

Cinnamon Biscuits.

Half a pound of dry flour, one pound of lump sugar finely sifted, one pound of butter, sixpennyworth of powdered cinnamon. The whole to be mixed with a glass of brandy or rum, then rolled very thin, and baked in a quick oven.

Baked Bread Pudding.

Broken pieces of bread are good soaked in milk until soft, then add two eggs to a quart, a little salt, butter, lemon-peel, nutmeg, or cinnamon, and sugar. Bake an hour. This is wholesome, and best for common use.

Involuntary Blushing.

This arises from diffidence and natural bashfulness, and can only be corrected by mingling much in society, and exerting all the moral energies to conquer it.

To stop Mouse-Holes.

Stop mouse-holes with plugs of common hard soap, and you will do it effectually. Rats, cockroaches and ants will not disregard it.

Editor's Table.

MATURIN M. BALLOU, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

A STRONG MAN.

We have, from time to time, mentioned the lectures of Dr. Winship, of this city, on the physical culture of the human body. He recently again lectured in the Mercantile Hall, when he lifted before the audience *two hundred and thirty-two pounds*, dead weight, with his hands alone, suspended himself by his little finger, and shouldered a barrel of flour, taking it from the floor! He declared that the only true success in life, was success in living. In regard to his own practice, the lecturer said he was now gaining strength as fast as at any time for four or five years past. He commenced five years ago exercising an hour and a half each day; three years ago, he exercised an hour each day; now he averages no more than forty minutes each day, and he never takes any violent gymnastic exercise when he is weary, or when, to use his own words, he does not feel like taking it. He said that before the new year he would hold out at arm's length the weight of a barrel of flour. He has nearly reached that wonderful point already. The doctor is a young man, we should say about twenty-three or four years of age, some five feet six inches in height, and has brought himself to this degree of extraordinary strength by an easy but systematic course of exercise. His lecture is a well written and philosophical discourse, and has been delivered in many of the towns and cities of New England. We doubt if there be another man living, who can lift as much as Dr. Winship can do.

WELL TO REMEMBER.—Any persons residing in New England, having sheet music, magazines, newspapers, or serial works of any kind, which they desire to have neatly bound, have only to address them to this office, enclosing directions, and hand the package to the express. The works will be bound in the neatest manner, and at the lowest rates, and returned in *one week*. Godcy's Magazine, Harper's New Monthly, Harper's Weekly, Peterson's Magazine, Atlantic Monthly, London Illustrated News, Punch—in short, all and every serial work is bound as above.

STUPENDOUS.—There are stone bridges in China three or four miles in length.

THE NEWSPAPER.

Those persons having charge of families, who do not see them supplied with at least one good miscellaneous weekly paper, leave a very important duty unfulfilled. Such a medium of instruction has many advantages over books; first, because no books of equal capacity in quantity, can be afforded so cheaply as a newspaper, and secondly, none are so interesting, because the newspaper consists of a variety measured out in proper quantities, as to time and quality. Being new every week, it invites to a habit of reading, and affords an easy and agreeable mode of acquiring knowledge, so essential to every one. It causes many hours to pass away pleasantly and profitably, which would otherwise have been spent in idleness and mischief. The first taste for reading that is elicited from children is manifested in the miscellaneous paper, in which they earliest learn to feel an interest, and to read with attention. Some writer has said he could at once decide whether a family were in the habit of reading a good paper or not, by a very few minutes' conversation upon general subjects with its younger members. There is a moral in all this, that it is well to rightly understand.

AMUSEING JEST.—The Sacramento (Cal.) Standard says that a restaurant keeper in that city, after waiting in vain the other morning for the arrival of his customers to breakfast, found that a mad wag, or a secret enemy, had slyly substituted a pair of young kittens for a brace of rabbits, which had been hung on a hook at the door. The mystery was solved.

ABDICATION OF A KING.—Kamehameha, King of the Sandwich Islands, has abdicated in favor of his son. This step is attributed to the dissatisfaction of the people with his conduct in shooting his secretary, while under the influence of intoxication and jealousy.

Noble occupation, farming! Mother Eve married a gardener.—*New York paper*.

But her husband lost his place by it!

TRUE.—Some one beautifully says: "The eyes see clearer, that have looked through tears."

LADIES' DRESSES IN TURKEY.

The Journal de Constantinople publishes the text of an imperial edict, regulating the costumes of the ladies in Turkey, in conformity with Mussulman tradition. We give the principal points of the document as a matter of curiosity in the present day. All women must take the greatest care to refrain from everything contrary to good conduct, and must watch most attentively over the honor of their family. The laws and customs of other nations have regulated all that is connected with the observance of morality. According to the Mohammedan law, the first obligation for women consists in the use of the veil; consequently, for a Turkish woman to depart from the observance of that custom is a breach of not only a social duty but of a precept of faith. Nevertheless, for some time past a certain number of women, contrary to the laws of propriety, make use of very thin veils, and dresses made of materials that have never before been used for such purposes, and walk about with their features and persons too much seen. They moreover affect indelicate manners, and in the public promenades mix with men. Henceforth all women, whoever they may be, on leaving their houses must wear thick veils which completely cover their features, and be clad in dresses of cloth or other suitable material, without embroidery, trimmings, or external ornaments of any kind. They must not show themselves out of doors simply in stockings and slippers, but must wear half-boots in yellow morocco leather, or some other suitable and decent covering for the feet. When they go out to make purchases they are strictly prohibited from entering shops, but must stop on the outside to be served, and must not remain longer than is absolutely necessary. When they are on the public promenades they must confine themselves to the part reserved for females. Any woman who shall be guilty of acts against the law will be severely punished. No family shall keep equipages beyond their means, and the drivers must be most carefully selected. The men must also conform to the laws of propriety, particularly in the streets, or they will subject themselves to severe punishment.

MARVELLOUS.—The very last curiosity spoken of in the papers, is a wheel that came off a dog's tail when it was a waggin'. The man who discovered it has retired from public life.

PUNISHED.—A female Fagin has been unearthed by the sharp policemen of Gotham. She clothed, fed and lodged a number of young lads and employed them to steal.

A PUBLIC SPEAKER.

A cold, wintry morning, but there is a large and patient audience nearly filling the spacious Music Hall, just across the street from our office. After a hymn sung by the choir, there steps into the desk upon the platform, a tall, slim individual, with small head and rather sharp features, his hair parted, school-boy like, upon the side, and lying very close to his forehead and face. His first movement after placing his manuscript open before him, is an uneasy and awkward motion of the body and arms, accompanied by a peculiar "purging up" of the mouth. Settling his head a little on one side, he thrusts one hand in his pocket and commences to read. As he proceeds, his whole person seems to be very much in the way, and quite restive, the lower limbs doing an extraordinary amount of duty in their brave efforts to support the physical structure. Notwithstanding the discourse is evidently written, word for word, yet at times his hesitancy and pauses become almost painfully trying, the words coming forth as though drawn out by the utmost effort of physical strength, from some party who has got hold of the other end of them, the speaker dwelling often upon the prepositions and conjunctions. Then again the words flow forth with great velocity, as though the "slack" had been let go entirely by the aforesaid party at the opposite end. Emphasis and punctuation are entirely disregarded, totally ignored—the speaker appears to have no more power of rightfully using inflection than a steam-engine—true, there is an ample supply of the ingredient on hand, but it is tumbled out and dumped upon the audience like loads of coal upon a sidewalk, without the most distant regard to appropriateness or common sense. So much for manner, now for matter. What opulence of thought, what subtilty of analysis, what varied and brilliant stores of knowledge are lavished in this awkward manner, what delicate pictures from nature; how the halls of philosophy and science are thrown wide open to the listener, how soon you forget the man and his manner, to luxuriate in the tropical richness of his matter! What profundity of wit, yet how playful; what immensity of intellectual resource! This portraiture will be easily recognized in this vicinity.

TRY IT.—The homœopathic remedy for hydrophobia is to swallow a dog smaller than the one which occasioned the malady.

CONTRIBUTORS.—We would call the reader's attention to the names we are constantly adding to our regular list of contributors.

ANECDOTE OF JOHN JACOB ASTOR.

The following amusing anecdote is told of him in the double character of a patron of literature and parsimonious money-holder, which appears to be exceedingly characteristic. Among the subscribers to Audubon's magnificent work on ornithology, the subscription price of which was \$1000 a copy, appeared the name of John Jacob Astor. During the progress of the work, the prosecution of which was extremely expensive, M. Audubon, of course, called upon several of his subscribers for payments. It so happened that Mr. Astor (probably that he might not be troubled about small matters) was not applied to before the delivery of all the letter-press and plates. Then, however, Audubon asked for his thousand dollars; but he was put off with one excuse or another. "Ah, M. Audubon," would the owner of millions observe, "you come at a bad time; money is very scarce; I have nothing in bank; I have invested all my funds." At length, for the sixth time, Audubon called upon Astor for his thousand dollars. As he was ushered into the presence, he found William B. Astor, the son, conversing with his father. No sooner did the rich man see the man of art, than he began: "Ah, M. Audubon, so you have come again after your money. Hard times, M. Audubon—money scarce." But just then catching an inquiring look from his son, he changed his tone: "However, M. Audubon, I suppose we must contrive to let you have some of your money, if possible. William," he added, calling to his son, who had walked into an adjoining parlor, "have we any money at all in the bank?" "Yes, father," replied the son, supposing that he was asked an earnest question pertinent to what they had been talking about when the ornithologist came in, "we have two hundred and twenty thousand dollars in the Bank of New York, seventy thousand in the City Bank, ninety thousand in the Merchants', ninety-eight thousand four hundred in the Mechanics', eighty-three thousand—" "That'll do, that'll do," exclaimed John Jacob, interrupting him. "It seems that William can give you a check for your money."

REMARKABLE.—It is claimed that a mass of the best Cannel coal, of the size of a whale, contains more oil than a whale.

IMMENSE SUM.—The foreign shipments of specie from New York for eleven months amount to nearly sixty-eight million dollars.

WOOD.—Wood sells to families, in San Francisco, California, for ten dollars per cord.

THE FRENCH EMPEROR.

Louis Napoleon is said to be very completely under the control of his wife, especially since his return from the Italian war. The behaviour of the empress at the Council of Ministers is worth observing. The most abstruse and driest questions are listened to by her majesty with the greatest apparent attention. She always comes armed with pencil and with paper, and takes down notes with the prettiest pedantry in the world. It is true that the fair and snowy hands, as if rebellious against the thankless office, are continually occupied in sliding to and fro the rings upon her fingers, and in turning and twisting the bracelets on her wrists, whose pretty little Chinese jingle formed so funny an accompaniment to the reading of the report upon the Peiho expedition the other day, that the grave *seigniors* all laughed aloud, and the emperor joined good-humoredly in the merriment, and, seizing her majesty's hand, kissed it rapturously, making the funny little bells, with which the bracelet was hung all around, ring out a more joyous peal than ever. All is not prose and dry discourse at the cabinet councils; the presence of woman enlivens even these pedantic meetings. As to the emperor himself, the fatigue and anxiety of the late campaign, the disappointment in not having struck a *grand coup*, and the vexation experienced at not having assumed a higher position than before, have advanced that terrible disease to which all sovereigns are subject in their latter years—that green and yellow melancholy, that mysterious form of spleen which doctors cannot heal and which physic cannot cure, but which seems as inseparable from the kingly trade as colic from the painter's craft, or ophthalmia and consumption from that of the cutler and the glass-blower.

LIBERALITY.—Rev. James Peeler, of Tallahassee, Florida, has sold the patent right of a plow of his own invention for \$250,000, and has given away for church purposes, \$200,000 of it.

ANCESTRAL PRIDE.—In Australia, the pride of ancestry, it appears, is in having had a convict for a father—the "stock" being considered "more pluck-y!"

AN IDEA.—Seeing a cellar nearly finished, a waggish friend of ours remarked that it was an excellent foundation for a story.

SIGNIFICANT.—Leigh Hunt says, shrewdly, that travel is the conversion of money into mind.

FIREPROOF PAPER.—Dip paper into strong alum water, and it will resist the action of fire.

ANCIENT AND MODERN MECHANICS.

Many persons assert that the grandeur of the monuments of the ancients, and the great size of the stones they employed for building purposes, prove that they understood mechanics better than the moderns. The least knowledge of mechanics, however, shows this view to be erroneous. The moderns possess powers which were unknown to the ancients, such as the screw and the hydraulic press, the power of the latter being limited only by the strength of the machinery. The works of the ancients show that they expended a vast deal of power and labor to gratify the pride and ambition of monarchs, but the moderns can do all these more easily and in less time, whenever they deem it necessary. There was nothing in ancient times comparable to that daring, ingenious and stupendous monument of engineering skill, the Britannia Tubular Bridge across the Menai Straits, projected, designed and built by Robert Stephenson, the famous English engineer, who had previously built a similar but smaller structure—the Conway Tubular Bridge.

Had the Britannia bridge existed in ancient times it would have been regarded as the first of the seven wonders of the world. Greater and more expensive structures have been raised, but none displaying more science, skill, and ingenuity, and none requiring such tremendous mechanical power to execute. The Britannia Tubular Bridge was built to conduct the Chester and Holyhead railway across the Menai Straits, to the island of Anglesea in the Irish sea. The two tubes to accommodate a double track, rest upon two abutments and three piers. Each tube is 2513 feet long. The tubes are nearly square at the terminus. They are from 30 to 40 feet high, and 14 feet 8 inches wide, and are of iron, each tube containing 5000 tons of wrought iron, and about 1000 tons of cast iron. The tubes were constructed each in four sections; the sections extending from the abutments to their corresponding pier, each 250 feet long, were built *in situ*, on immense scaffolding, made for the purpose, of heavy timbers, even with the railway; but the middle sections, each 470 feet long, were built on piers on the Caernarvonshire shore, then floated into the stream and elevated to their position. Each of these sections weighed 1800 tons.

A THRIVING CITY.—The statistics of buildings erected in St. Louis for ten months previous to November 1, show an aggregate expenditure of \$7,173,000.

OVERDONE.—Ship-building at the present time.

VICTORIA BRIDGE AT MONTREAL.

The length proper of this bridge is about two miles, and it consists of two abutments, each 250 feet long, and 24 piers 90 feet in length and 16 broad, reduced to 33 feet at top, and the shape of a wedge at the upper end (to divide the ice in winter), and all built of solid blocks of limestone, which together, makes 3,000,000 feet of solid masonry; then resting upon this foundation are 24 iron tubes, each 242 feet span, and the centre one 380 feet, under which steamers will pass on their trips down the St. Lawrence; the tubes are 60 feet above the summer water level; entire length of tube 6600 feet; each of the 24 weighs 323 tons, and the centre one, being double, weighs 840 tons. Total weight of iron work 8000 tons. The size of tube is 22 feet high by 16 broad. The greatest expansion and contraction of each tube caused by the variation of the temperature from 40 below zero to 125 above, does not exceed 3 1-2 inches, which space is left between, each one being placed upon rollers so that the effects of this variation is not at all dangerous or sudden. The only wood used in the whole structure is the string pieces that the rails are laid upon, and a narrow sidewalk that is now being laid at the side of one of the rails for the employees to pass with more ease and rapidity upon. The cross pieces are of 1-4 inch iron laid seven feet apart. The cost of the entire work will be about \$6,500,000.

COURSE OF TRADE.—Not many years ago our English cousins used to find the mode of dress of American gentlemen very ridiculous. Now they admire it so much that they have sent to one clothing firm in New York city the sum of £1980 sterling for ready-made clothing since the first of August, and nearly half of this amount has been shipped to London.

ALL TO NO PURPOSE.—There was consumed in Scotland during the last four years, 22,270,369 gallons of liquor, valued at \$56,000,000; and in England, during the same period, 63,007,655 gallons, valued at \$157,719,000. Pretty good drinkers, those people.

HE HAD BETTER.—Says a daily, "Church, the artist, is now engaged on a view of a volcano in South America." Church had better keep away from the "crater."

IMMENSE UNDERTAKING.—London is at length to be thoroughly drained. The drainage works will be colossal and enduring. They will take five years to execute, and cost four millions sterling.

ON A TRIP TO WASHINGTON.

A visit to the seat of government, during the session of Congress, is a trip that amply repays the fatigue and expense of a journey of hundreds of miles. Certainly no American should ever think of going abroad, until he has spent at least a few days at the capital. It is only at Washington, that you can see gathered representatives of all parts of the country. We do not mean simply political representatives, but business and professional men; ay, and women, too—from east, west, north and south. And you can scarcely ever pass many days at Washington without seeing some delegates from the wild tribes of aborigines, the descendants of the native lords of the soil. In the *personel* of the foreign embassies, too, you meet with striking representatives of the old world, so that you move, for the time being, in a singularly interesting cosmopolitan centre. The Washington season is a very gay one, and it is by no means difficult to gain access to the best circles. Washington hospitality and affability are proverbial. At the White House receptions, you see that the republican character of our government is not theoretical, but practical; the humblest man in the land approaches its highest officer on the same level.

But the debates in the Senate, House, the receptions, the balls, dinners and parties, will engross but a portion of the visitor's time. If he is systematic and industrious, even during a brief stay, he will find an opportunity to visit the architectural lions of the Federal City. The Capitol is, say what you will, a noble building, and would be an honor to any city in the world. With the additions, it will cover an area of nearly four acres. Many of the new apartments in this vast structure are truly magnificent; yet who counts the cost, when it is the property of a great and wealthy nation?

The Post-Office is another elegant building, with its gleaming façade of white marble, its rich Corinthian ornaments, and its vast extent. The National Gallery, in the Patent Office, is one of the finest halls in this country. It is 264 feet long, 64 wide, and 30 high. A quadruple range of Doric columns, 20 feet in height, supporting arched ceilings rising 10 feet high, and a noble cylindrical arch, with an aperture admitting vertical light, are striking features of this magnificent apartment.

Almost the first question the stranger is asked in Washington is—"Have you seen the Smithsonian Institute?" As soon as possible, you must be in a position to answer in the affirmative. The building is very striking, in the Romanesque style of architecture. The towers that

flank its principal entrance, produce a fine effect. The library is calculated to contain 80,000 volumes; but there are other rooms for the reception of books, when this number has been reached. The White House of course every one visits, including some who expect to be its occupants for a period of four years. The Treasury building is another striking public edifice, and one of the most beautiful in the city. But we might fill pages, were we to attempt to act as guide to the lions of Washington.

Of course no one who goes thither, will turn his face homeward without performing a pilgrimage to the American Mecca—the home and the burial-place of Washington, now associated with the most brilliant triumphs of American oratory, and the most striking exhibition of female patriotism. No American can tread without emotion the pathways trodden by his feet who was "first in war, first in peace, first in the hearts of his countrymen." No American can look upon the grave which holds his ashes without recalling the words of his "Farewell Address," its touching appeals, its solemn warnings, without registering a vow to be true to the principles enunciated by the noblest of patriots.

"THE WELCOME GUEST."—This brilliant new weekly paper, the first number of which we issued at the commencement of the new year, has sprung at once into an immense circulation. The American public was ready to receive a *first-class* and really valuable journal with favor, hence the demand far exceeded our expectations. This mammoth journal combines all the extensive facilities of our large establishment, in the mental and mechanical departments, and is pronounced to be the best literary weekly yet brought before the public eye in this country. We send it in connection with *Balou's Dollar Magazine* for \$2 50 a year. Those who are already subscribers to the Magazine can receive *The Welcome Guest* for a year by enclosing us \$1 50, and mentioning the fact that they are on our Magazine subscription list.

STEAM FROM HUMANITY.—The heat produced in the body of a healthy man in the course of twenty-four hours, if it could be applied would be sufficient to raise about 7000 tons to the height of one foot.

TEXAS.—Sheep-raising is getting to be a favorite pursuit with the country gentlemen of Texas. It pays them well.

JUST REMEMBER.—Modesty is the only sure bait if you angle for praise.

GLOUCESTER FISHING FLEET.

Gloucester, Massachusetts, is the fishing town *par excellence* of our State, and one of the oldest settlements in New England. It has gradually, but very steadily increased its trade year after year, until now it is taking giant strides annually in a commercial point of view. The harbor at the present season of the year exhibits a forest of masts, there being over three hundred and fifty vessels hauled up for winter, repairing and refitting again for the fishing grounds. After breasting the storms of George's Banks and the gales of the St. Lawrence for the past ten months, they are now at rest for a little while. Their crews of 4000 men are scattered along the shore from Cape Sable to Cape Cod, and the earnings of this great Gloucester fleet are rendering comfortable for the winter many a New England household. These vessels scarcely lay idle at all. They are no sooner hauled up than they are refitted again. The sail-maker, rigger, ship-carpenter and painter are employed in getting them ready for another cruise. Even now, the first arrival from Newfoundland with fresh herring for bait, will start at least twenty vessels for George's Banks. Gloucester seems destined to control the entire Massachusetts fisheries in time, as the coming year some forty or fifty new schooners will be added to its already enormous fleet. Thirty years ago, 1830, it only had some 30 schooners and as many boats, and less than 600 men were employed by all the vessels from the harbor. In 1860 it will have a fleet of nearly 400 large schooners and 4000 men. An increase of fifty schooners in the trade of a single seaport town is a pretty significant item. In the meantime the population are not idle on shore, houses are being built, new branches of trade and industry established, the railroad which connects with Boston is being extended some ten miles further along the coast, and by-and-by Gloucester will become a city.

HEAR THIS, GIRLS.—There are in Iowa, 39,000 more males than females, and it is one of the best States in the Union, and we should think it a prominent point to enter the Union from the state of celibacy.

"THE WELCOME GUEST."—This new Boston weekly paper contains more reading matter than any other journal in America! Four cents per copy, everywhere.

SORRY FOR IT.—By Minister Reed's recently ratified treaty with the Chinese government, the opium trade is again legalized.

LAMARTINE.

The French poet does not seem to get out of his pecuniary difficulties. A European journal before us, shows that he has just held a meeting with his creditors. He has been trying in vain to sell his extensive establishment and estate. After begging all over Europe and America for money to pay his debts, he has given that up as a bad job, the enterprise having only produced 160,000 francs all together (small business). With this comparatively insignificant sum he has to pay more than 2,500,000 francs of debts. M. de Lamartine was obliged to ask for time. He called all his creditors (more than 400) together at the Chateau of Montceau, and proposed to give up to them his estates, the value of which exceeded his liabilities. He also stated, that notwithstanding the insufficiency of the national subscription, he had paid to his creditors, in eighteen months, out of the produce of his literary labors, a sum of 1,200,000 francs, and engaged to pay, in January and February a further sum of 300,000 francs; so that his debts would be reduced to 1,000,000 francs. He, therefore, solicited the indulgence of dividing his payments into three or four instalments, hoping, he said, by labor and economy, to pay every one in full. However inconvenient it might be for several among the creditors to have their debts settled in these small payments, yet not one of them opposed the proposition. It is puzzling to understand how a man with ordinary common sense could have got into such pecuniary trouble, and still more extraordinary to suppose that he could by sending out solicitors beg sufficient money to pay his debts. It is not the way to do on this side of the Atlantic.

THINK OF IT.—There has been considerable commotion of late, and the public are justly anxious at the prevalence of the small pox, but yet there are not one quarter the number of deaths per week in New England by this disease, that regularly occur from consumption! That vaccination is an almost certain safeguard to the former evil, is no less certain than that *Wistar's Balsam of Wild Cherry* will prevent, and even cure the latter. It should be kept for use in every family circle.

A NOVELTY.—A machine has been invented which will pick the feathers from forty-five geese in an hour. What sort of a machine is it? Anything like a faro bank?

"CHICKEN DISPUTES."—These feathered battles are very popular in certain circles at Hartford, Connecticut.

Foreign Miscellany.

The Amsterdam Crystal Palace is to be completed and opened in 1861.

A recent decree in Tuscany totally abolishes the stamp on newspapers.

The city of Paris receives, on an average, nearly \$300,000 from the tax on funerals; it is given to the churches.

At St. Petersburg a subscription has been opened to found at the university there a free scholarship which shall bear the name of Schiller.

Messrs. Rothschild, it is rumored, have purchased the St. Petersburg and Moscow Railway from the Russian government.

The French government has ordered all the costumes, scenes, curtains, etc., of the Paris Grand Opera to be rendered incombustible by Carteron's preparation.

Two steamers, to be used as tugs on the Ganges, have lately been built at Liverpool. They will draw flat boats containing heavy freights.

It is said in a recent number of the Edinburgh Review that more than one half of the adult population of England and Wales cannot write their names.

It is suspected that the bones of the brave men who fell in the Crimea are exported for manure, Britain taking the most of them. "The paths of glory lead but to" guano.

The Governor-General of Siberia has been paying a visit to the Japanese capital, having a fleet of twelve vessels. A visit of that kind always carries its own welcome with it.

A church is about to be erected by the Russian government near Inkerman, the funds for which are supplied by the sale of the cannon balls which have been picked up at Inkerman and Sebastopol.

The medical practitioners announce, that a rather strongly developed small pox is raging epidemically at Paris. It does not attack children alone, but older people, who have too long omitted to have themselves re-vaccinated.

Orders have reached Woolwich for increasing the royal artillery from the present strength of 14 to 16 brigades. It is besides intended to mount two extra batteries, to be horsed and manned with eighteen-pounder siege guns.

The oddest theft we have read of lately occurred recently in Louisville, Kentucky. A man bored a hole in a street gas main, and inserting a service pipe, lit his house for an indefinite length of time without expense.

A female head, in bronze, was lately found in a field at Villette, near Vienna. It is supposed to have belonged to a statue of the Empress Faustina, wife of the Emperor Marcus Aurelius, from that name being engraved beneath a diadem.

All the graveyards in the Crimea, says a letter-writer, are in perfectly good order, with stone walls and ditches round them, and, as there is scarcely a soul here, they are likely to remain as they are. All the inscriptions are quite clear, and they look as peaceful and quiet as though in an English churchyard.

The Crown Prince of Denmark has become insolvent. What will the creditors do?

A holy war has been proclaimed in Morocco which will bring thousands of Moors to the seaport towns to defend their country.

The American ladies in Paris are aiding the funds for a chapel there by holding a fair in the Marquis of Hertford's house, on the Boulevard.

The best informed parties in England are of the opinion that the Great Eastern steamship will never cross the Atlantic.

The fighting between the Spaniards and the Moroccins grows in fierceness. The latter show much spirit, and take the part of assailants, generally.

Austria is in a bad way. The Protestants threaten to rebel if she should not establish religious equality; and the Catholics threaten to rebel if she should establish it.

Mr. James White, of Wickham Market, has completed and has now in constant operation a self-winding clock, which determines the time with accuracy.

Oranges raised in Mobile from Genoa seed are becoming quite an article of traffic. They are said to be larger and sweeter than the Cuba orange, and fruit-growers in Alabama are turning attention to their cultivation.

They say in Paris every house on the island, which contains the Palais de Justice, Gaols, and Notre Dame, which is not used as a government or municipal office, will be torn down, and immense barracks erected in their places.

Schamyl has requested permission from the Russian government to make a pilgrimage to Mecca. He is said to have also expressed a wish to have, like Abd-el-Kader, a fixed residence assigned him in some part of Turkey to pass the remainder of his days.

A series of fresh experiments were lately carried out on board the *Fisgard*, at Woolwich, for the purpose of testing the ocean telegraph signals invented by Mr. Ward, an American. The experiments were considered to be in every respect successful.

Mrs. Martineau denounces crinoline, and says that the petticoats of the present day only serve as a mask of the human form—a perversion of human proportions. A woman on a sofa looks like a child popping up from a haycock. A girl in a dance looks like a Dutch tumbler that was a favorite in my infancy.

It is reported from Paris that two officers of the Toulon dockyard have invented a liquid which is said to increase the combustible power of coal seventy-five per cent., so that one ton of Newcastle coal will become equal, with the liquid, to four tons, and that French coal will last twice as long as it now does.

The ladies of Vienna, says a journal devoted to court news and scandal, have just determined upon the abandonment of the use of gloves, which are no longer to be worn in private parties and at the opera only on the first entrance into the box. The adoption of rings of real value, attached by a gold chain to the armlet, has given the idea of this change in fashion.

Record of the Times.

The taxable property of the State of Ohio is \$900,000,000.

Kentucky is a wealthy State—the valuation of 1858 being \$466,113,671.

The city of New York is in the same latitude as Naples, in the south of Italy.

The clear profits of the New York Herald are stated to be at least \$50,000 a year.

Nearly 40,000 workmen are at present employed on the railways in Russia.

The daughter of a Philadelphia physician has gone into a nunnery, and given her property to it.

Re-vaccination should be practised by all persons on whom it has not been tried.

At Pittsburgh, recently, a cannon of 35 tons was cast for the United States government.

The Alabama legislature has passed a law imposing a fine of \$500 on all spirit mediums who give public sittings.

There are in the United States 55 different religious orders belonging to the Catholic church—24 of men and 31 of women.

Leigh Hunt's son Thornton is preparing a complete edition of his father's works for publication in London.

The Ex-King of Oude is said to have accepted a pension of £120,000, and relinquished all claims on Oude.

The largest nugget of amalgamated gold ever produced has recently been discovered in Australia. Its weight is 1040 ounces.

During the past year 187 applications for divorce were filed in the Philadelphia common pleas court, and 76 couples were disunited.

The number of voters and smokers in Hartford, Connecticut, are estimated to be about equal, something over 4000.

In New Zealand, the cultivation of hops is making considerable progress, 15,000 bushels having been gathered from the gardens of one firm alone.

In the Museum at Dresden is a tube many feet long, formed by lightning falling on a bed of sand, which has been partially melted by the electric fluid.

A blind beggar was arrested lately in Antwerp who was ascertained to be possessed of three houses in that city, and a lot on which he was about to build four more.

The exports of hay from the Kennebec River alone, this season, amounts to at least 7100 tons, at an average to the farmers of \$12 per ton, making an aggregate of \$85,000.

A superior quality of iron ore has been discovered on the premises of Mr. Henry Albert, in Mansfield, Warren county, N. J. The discovery was made by the Lackawanna Coal and Iron Company.

According to official documents recently published, it appears that there were in France in 1844, 9,400,000 hectares (two and a half acres each) of uncultivated land, and that during the last fifteen years, that immense extent had been reduced to 4,800,900.

The Kentucky Lunatic Asylum has had 2344 patients since its opening, in 1824.

The tonnage of Maine amounts to about 381,000 tons, worth \$9,657,699.

In Richmond, Va., there is one of the best cannon foundries in the United States.

A batch of wire of 14 pounds weight furnishes material for 48,100 needles.

The annual value of the gold used by dentists in the United States is \$2,250,000.

Robert Treat Paine received eleven dollars a line for his ode, "Adams and Liberty."

The wealth of William B. Astor is variously estimated between fifteen and twenty million.

Almost all the large cities of the country are beginning to construct street railways.

The Choctaw nation numbers about 18,000. They have diminished, since they left Alabama. They still hold their lands in common.

Bayard Taylor is said to have cleared \$4500 in a two months' lecturing tour through California. Profitable talking, that!

Church bells are occasionally made of glass, and one 14 inches high and 13 inches in diameter has been placed in the turret of the chapel at the Grange, Borrowdale, Cumberland, Eng.

The cost of improvements now being made in London, such as opening new streets, widening old ones, improving drainage, etc., amounts to the reputable sum of £19,815,521.

A gentleman in Urbana, Ohio, dreamed that two vicious horses were about to injure him fatally. Attempting to avoid this fate, he leaped out of bed, and awakened to the pleasant certainty of a broken thigh bone.

At an exhibition of wild beasts in Tuam, England, an elephant put his trunk into the pocket of one of the bystanders and abstracted a small account book contained therein. Before a rescuer could be effected, he dropped it into his capacious jaws and had it instantly swallowed.

The New York Institution for the Blind have just purchased thirty-five acres of land on the banks of the Hudson, at One Hundred and Twenty-Fifth Street, adjoining the grounds of the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb. The price paid was \$150,000.

An action to determine the title to a barrel worth ninety cents was recently brought by Adolphus Marx against Koster & Spelbrick, of Lafayette, Ind. Already the costs have amounted to \$50, and the case is yet to be carried to a higher court.

The Bayfield Press says of the Wisconsin lake fisheries: "The fish are coming into the bay, and our fishermen are busy taking and barrelling them for shipping early in the spring. Early last spring they brought eight dollars per barrel. There are now about 300 nets at work in the bay."

An exchange, noticing the death of a child from the effects of drinking lye, says, that vinegar or oil speedily administered, are sure antidotes for this poison. The former converts it into acetate of potash, and the latter mingling with it forms soap, neither of which will materially injure the stomach.

Merry-Making.

What is Prussian-blue? A drunken Dutchman.
"I blush for you," as the rouge-pot said to the old maid.

It is not always the raggedest man that is the shabbiest fellow.

A woman smoking a cigar: A-shes at one end and a-she at the other.

"Come out of the wet," as the shark said, when he swallowed the sailor.

Running accounts will run away with a person's credit more rapidly than anything else.

The man who is fond of pudding and pies, places himself fearfully in the power of his wife.

Matrimonial history is a narrative of many words; but the story of love may be told in a few letters.

You know mock-modesty as you do mock-turtle, from its being the produce of a calf's head.

A bag of money and grief—what is the difference between them? One is dollars, the other dolorous.

Did the man who ploughed the sea and afterwards planted his feet on his native soil, ever harvest the crops?

The politician who got out of breath running for an office, has purchased a pair of bellows, and proposes to run again.

The eyes of an unbeliever are no better than the eyes of a potato, and the ears of a doubter no better than the ears of corn, and much longer.

A hungry man, upon receiving an invitation to dinner, complimented his host upon having a chair-at-table disposition.

A Tennessee paper says that "the inauguration of the governor was celebrated by the firing of *minute guns every half hour*."

The most tender-hearted man we ever heard of, was a shoemaker, who always shut his eyes and whistled when he ran his awl into a sole.

An auctioneer in Texas, praising up his self-filling pens, said a person would forget where the inkstand was, before it would need filling.

We notice scores of poetical effusions directed to friends who are in heaven. Better give poetry of the heart utterance in words and deeds of kindness to friends upon earth.

Prentice, of the Louisville Journal, says: "If when you visit a neighbor, he tells you, in a husky voice, to 'make yourself at home,' obey him literally as soon as possible."

"Sambo, does yer know why dem noisy birds is called carrion birds for?" "Well, Jerry, I got him? 'Cause dey carry on so over a dead horse."

"Miss, what have you done to be ashamed of, that you blush so?" "Sir, what have the roses and the strawberries and the peaches done, that they blush so?"

A disappointed candidate for office, speaking of men who would sell their votes, remarked: "They are as base as Æsop of old, who sold his birthright for a mess of potash!"

Letters to be delivered by hand, rarely come to hand.

"I feel for your situation," as the probe said to the bullet.

"I'm down upon you," as the young beard said to the chin.

It is paradoxical to say that a person was cowed by a horse whipping?

What is that that belongs to yourself, yet is used by everybody? Your name.

On a frosty day, what two fish ought we to tie together? *Skates and soles*.

What wind should a hungry sailor wish for? One that blows fowl and chops about.

Why is an unwelcome visitor like a shady tree? Because we are glad when he leaves.

The barber who dressed the head of a barrel, has been engaged to curl the locks of a canal.

Why is an elephant like a chair? Because it can't climb a tree.

"I speak within bounds," as the prisoner said when addressing the jury from the dock.

There is a man in England so fat, that a child was recently killed by his shadow falling on it.

Why is it always proper to take up a penny collection? Because there is some cents (*sense*) in it.

An ignorant man who "stands upon his dignity," is like the fellow who tried to elevate himself by standing upon a piece of brown paper.

Why do men who are about to fight a duel, generally choose a *field* for the place of action? For the purpose of allowing the ball to *graze*.

A New York milkman somewhat resembles the whale that swallowed Jonah, for he takes a great prophet (*profit*) out of the water.

"Will you be a second," said a gentleman, who proposed to fight a duel. "No, indeed, for you wouldn't stand a second yourself."

Given the section of the city to find at once the number of loafers and vagabonds that infest it. Get up a brawl, or an alarm of fire.

"A man is, in general, better pleased," says Dr. Johnson, "when he has a good dinner upon his table, than when his wife talks Greek."

The earth is a tender and kind mother to the husbandman, and yet at one season he always harrows her bosom, and at another he pulls her ears.

Wanted — a "sewing-machine," one about seventeen years old, dark complected, and generally considered good looking. Second-hand machines not wanted.

For a lady to sweep her carpet with embroidered undersleeves, would be considered indecently dirty; but to drag the pavement with her skirts seems to be very genteel.

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